

The following are the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Peoria County Board for the Care and Treatment of Persons with a Developmental Disability which was held Friday, November 21, 2014, at 2:00 p.m., at the Peoria City/County Health Department at 2116 North Sheridan Road, Peoria, Illinois 61604

Those persons present included:

Gary F. Stella, President and Member  
Joyce Harant, Member  
Laura Sniff, Member  
Nora Sullivan, Member  
Steve Giebelhausen, Civil Division, State's Attorney's Office  
Kate Van Beek, County Administration  
Diane Parrish, Autism Disbursement Committee  
Doris Hayes, EP!C  
Jim Runyon, Easter Seals  
Patti Gratton, Community Workshop and Training Center  
Brad Guidi, Camp Big Sky  
Rich Firebaugh, Southside Bank

#### **Call to Order**

Gary Stella called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

#### **Review and Approval of Minutes**

Nora Sullivan made the motion, with Laura Sniff seconding, to approve the Minutes of the meeting of June 27, 2014. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### **Approval of Budget**

Mr. Stella advised that the amount of funds available for grant distribution remains at \$550,000.00. Ms. Van Beek stated that the fund balance of \$280,000.00 as noted in the 2015 budget book has decreased to approximately \$207,787.00 due to a transaction transferring unemployment expenses associated with the layoffs.

Laura Sniff made a motion, with Nora Sullivan seconding, to approve the budget. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### **Lease Update**

Mr. Giebelhausen advised that Maloof has indicated that they have a potential renter for a portion of the available space, and he requested that Maloof draw up a partial release specifying the amount of space the group will rent and how much that would reduce the rent that Care & Treatment is currently paying. He stated that the remainder of the space could possibly be utilized for the Election Commission.

(Ms. Harant enters meeting.)

#### **AMHAI (Association of Community Mental Health Authorities of Illinois) Membership**

Mr. Runyon explained that the AMHAI is an association of similar Boards (377, 708, 553, etc.). Membership would provide value by providing access to information on the operation of similar Boards in Illinois, as well as taking on an advocacy role for the Boards. He advised that although Care & Treatment Board is not currently a member, it has been a member in the past. He stated that if the

Board were to join now, membership with full benefits would be free in 2015. The cost for membership in 2016 would be \$500.00.

Laura Sniff made a motion to join the ACHMAI with a free trial membership, and requested that Phyllis Russell, Executive Director of ACHMAI make a presentation to the Board. The motion was seconded by Ms. Sullivan and approved unanimously.

### **Purchase of Service**

- **Review and Revision of Draft TimeLine**

Laura Sniff made a motion, with Joyce Harant seconding, to approve the timeline as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

- **Review Application**

Joyce Harant made a motion, with Nora Sullivan seconding, to approve the application as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

- **Review Evaluation Tool**

Joyce Harant made a motion, with Laura Sniff seconding, to approve the evaluation tool as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

Ms. Van Beek distributed current agency contact information and requested that all pertinent parties review and forward any revisions or additions to her via email.

### **Autism Trust Account**

Mr. Firebaugh of Southside Bank provided an update on the status of the Autism account and answered questions from the Board. He advised that the Bank has been working with the trust account since March 2014. He distributed a current summary of accounts and a reflection of assets held in the account, as well as calculations of investment return to date. He advised that deposits transferred to the bank in March totaled \$2,818,811.00, with those dollars put into a model that is a balance between stocks and bonds. The bank then adjusts the percentage invested in stocks and bonds based upon the marketplace. He stated that the balance in the account as of November 14, 2014 was \$2,763,543.00; however, the decline was not due to market activity but to a \$100,000.00 distribution to Easter Seals. He noted that if those dollars were added back to the total amount, the account shows appreciation in gross earnings of \$55,631.00 through the eight months. He stated that although the account is currently approximately 70% equities, it is appropriate to be weighted a bit heavily in that fashion, as there is no money to be made currently on bonds. He said that the portfolio can be reallocated within a day without additional fees, costs or commissions if or when any future anticipated changes in the marketplace are foreseen.

Mr. Stella noted that tax exempt status of the Board has expired and has not been renewed, and discussion ensued as to the best and most effective measure to re-establish and maintain tax exempt status. Ms. Parrish stated that the trust specifically states that an annual filing is a requisite in order to keep the trust intact.

Nora Sullivan made a motion recommending that Southside Bank manage the re-establishment of the Board's 501(c)(3) status and maintain the status on an annual basis, along with the 990 reports. The motion was seconded by Joyce Harant and approved unanimously.

Joyce Harant made a motion to authorize the Chairperson of the Care & Treatment Board to sign and forward a letter to the Peoria County Treasurer requesting the release financial bank records related to the Autism Trust for all pertinent years to Southside Bank. The motion was seconded by Nora Sullivan and approved unanimously.

Mr. Stella noted a letter received from the Autism Trust Disbursement Committee requesting that the Care & Treatment Board resign as trustees of the Autism Trust, and after speaking with each member of the Board individually, it was determined that there was no interest in resigning. Ms. Parrish advised that OSF, as the grantor of the trust, is concerned over the revocation of the 501(c)(3) status, particularly with the current lack of administrative support regarding the grant process. Mr. Stella advised that some of those concerns have been alleviated with the previous motions made by committee today.

Joyce Harant made a motion to approach the Health Department to take over the function of the RFP process for the Autism Trust. The motion was seconded by Nora Sullivan and approved unanimously.

Ms. Parrish advised that she will speak to the Disbursement Committee regarding the RFP process for the coming year.

#### **Other Business**

No report.

#### **Public Comments**

Ms. Harant stated that she attended Camp Big Sky's volunteer training program graduation this past summer, and it was very inspiring. Mr. Guidi advised 11 participants began the volunteer training program, with 10 ultimately graduating. He also stated that a feasibility study was conducted earlier in the year, and the board has voted to move forward with a campaign to build a learning center at the camp. He commented that the number of visits at the camp this past year stands at 1,360, breaking the former attendance record of 1,017.

Mr. Runyon advised that a pilot project, "Wings for Autism" was conducted at the Greater Peoria Airport in June for families from the Peoria Regional Chapter, with four families participating. An additional event was held in October, with the opportunity opened up for other families. It is anticipated that the event will be held again sometime in the spring of 2015, dependent upon airline schedules.

Mr. Runyon discussed the PLAY Project, a program that the Care & Treatment Board has supported at the request of Easter Seals since 2003. This Board was an initial funder of the initiation of the PLAY Project. He advised that in the years 2007-2012 two federal studies were undertaken to determine the efficacy of the PLAY Project, and he distributed the results of the latest study. He stated that the results indicate that the Project improved caregiver/parent interactions with their child, increased social interaction of the child, improved the social/emotional development of the child and improved the autism symptomology of the child.

#### **Adjourn**

Nora Sullivan made the motion to adjourn with Laura Sniff seconding. There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.