

WHEELING TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD MINUTES OF
MARCH 13, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

The Mental Health Board Meeting of Wheeling Township, for March 13, 2024 was held in the Paula Ulreich Meeting Room, in the Township of Wheeling, 1616 North Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois. President Jack Vrett called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Secretary Bill Dixon called the roll and the following members were present, Bill Dixon, Jeanne Hamilton, Susan Hayes, Jim Ruffatto John Lubbe, Jack Vrett & JoAnne Schultz.

Also, in attendance: Wheeling Township Attorney Kenneth Florey, and Wheeling Township Director of Finance and Administration Regina Stapleton.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Jack Vrett led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION #1: APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE WHEELING TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD MEETING ON JANUARY 11, 2024.

Motion by Jim Ruffatto, seconded by JoAnne Schultz, to approve the minutes of January 11, 2024 Wheeling Township Community Mental Health Board Meeting.

VOICE CALL VOTE: ALL AYES...

NAYS: None....Motion #1 Carried.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Fred Vogt a resident of Arlington Heights stated that he is very disappointed with the Wheeling Township Board for their lack of willingness to proceed with honoring the vote of the citizens in the November 2022 election to increase the tax levy for Mental Health services. He also stated that he has been trying to get results of the Needs Survey. He was told by Wheeling Township staff that the results have to go to the Wheeling Township Board first. He said now he was told that Harper Business Solutions was hired by the Wheeling Township Board to disseminate the results. He said he is very anxious to get a response & information on this. He asked why the public cannot have access to the raw data from the survey.

WHEELING TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD MINUTES OF
MARCH 13, 2024

Lorri Grainawi a resident of Arlington Heights stated she understands there will be no funding available for the rest of this year. She suggested some ideas on what to do with little or no funding. One suggestion is to form a committee to include other social service agencies and community members. Another is to increase current Board to 9 members to create more expertise when funding is available and another would be to hold a Mental Health Fair to talk about what services are available. She also stated that State Representative Mary Beth Canty along with the Kenneth Young Center will be sponsoring a Mental Health Organization on May 6 at the Arlington Heights Memorial Library.

Nicole Grasse a resident of Arlington Heights requested that Citizens to Be Heard be held at the end of the Board Meeting. She stated that she is a Hospice Chaplain and the need for Mental Health Services remains as deep & big as it was post Covid.

George Motto a resident of Arlington Heights and a member of the Arlington Heights Senior Citizens Commission requested that the Mental Health Board approach the Wheeling Township Board to pass thru this referendum and not have another one. He is asking the board to lobby the Wheeling Township Board to pass thru the referendum in light of the State Legislation and also what is this body's position on what's going on.

Mike Murray a Bloomingdale Mental Health Board member thanked everyone for their dedication & hard work. He stated he can't wait for this Board to getting over the hump and get rolling. He also stated since the existence of their Board the recidivism rate for domestic calls to one police department has gone down 60%.

BUSINESS

Discuss-Wheeling Township Community Mental Health Board Policies and Procedures-Bill Dixon provided an update on the Policies & Procedures Manual. He stated that he and President Jack Vrett reviewed manuals from 5 Townships and 3 counties. All of them call their manuals Bylaws. Bill stated he needs the Boards direction as to what to call the Wheeling Township Community Mental Health Board Policies and Procedures Manual. Bill pointed out some the articles in the manual and some changes that are needed. Board member John Lubbe supports the statement for Citizens to be heard to be held near the start of the agenda and again towards the end of the agenda. There was a lot of discussion regarding the Policies and Procedures. There was discussion as to who would appoint more board members if needed. Wheeling Township Attorney Ken Florey suggested changing the wording for Roberts Rules of Order to read the Board may refer to Roberts Rules of Order as guidance for its proceedings. It was agreed that the following changes should be made: Tweak the Statement of Economic Interest Act, who would appoint new Board members, revise Roberts Rules or Order and decide on name for the manual.

Update-Needs Assessment-Board member Susan Hayes stated the purpose of the need's assessment is to determine gaps and strengths of Mental Health in Wheeling Township, to determine the levy requirements that we should be asking for and to

WHEELING TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD MINUTES OF
MARCH 13, 2024

determine a budget on how money will be used once received. She reported there were 2 bidders and Harper Business Solutions was chosen. She also stated the final date for completion of the Needs Assessment from Harper will be September 7, 2024. She reported that she has had 2 virtual meetings with Dr. Bailey & Wheeling Township Administrator Regina Stapleton for updates. There are 3 things that Dr. Baily has made a lot of progress on, a draft for a definition of mental health illness, developmental disabilities, substance abuse disorder, a draft for project outcomes and a draft of a process outline. Sue stated Dr. Bailey is willing to come to the May Board Meeting and give a presentation of updates and possibly the results of the survey.

BOARD COMMENTS

Bill Dixon asked Wheeling Township Attorney Ken Florey if he would have the changes to the Mental Health Statutes at the May meeting. Ken stated yes.

JoAnne Schultz asked the question of when the referendum was passed, was there a plan from the group that voted on the referendum.

Jeanne Hamilton stated she would like Board Members assigned to 1 or 2 service organizations that they can communicate with & understand their perspective of mental illness. She feels this might relieve Regina in some of the feedback as the Wheeling Township Community Health Board is a full-time job for Regina. Bill Dixon also pointed out to the audience that Regina has a full-time job in addition to the Mental Health Board. John Lubbe suggested having a booth at a Mental Health Fair on May 6 at the Arlington Heights Memorial Library. It was decided that it would be too soon for the Board to have a booth. President Jack Vrett questioned an ethics concern if the Board establishes a relationship with the agencies we fund. Wheeling Township Attorney Ken Florey will look into different statues. John Lubbe stated that there is a Mental Health Board that received grant dollars from the Kenneth Young Center for Narcan vending machines. He will do some further exploring on the grant.

John Lubbe asked about the funding recommendation that the Mental Health Board made to the Wheeling Township Board. Regina stated that the Board will be approving the Budget in April and at the May Board Meeting she will give the Mental Health Board the information on which agencies were selected and how much is being spent. Trustee Hamilton told the Board that the Wheeling Township Board use her recommendations and add a few thousand dollars more.

MOTION # 2 ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Bill Dixon, seconded by Jim Ruffatto

VOICE CALL VOTE: All Ayes...

NAYES: None...Motion #2 carried

The meeting for Wednesday, March 13, 2024, was declared adjourned at 8:04 pm. The next scheduled Community Mental Health Board Meeting is set for Wednesday, May 8, 2024, at 7 pm.