

**Meeting Minutes of  
The Governor's Council on Behavioral Health  
8:30 a.m., Thursday, June 11, 2009**

The Governor's Council on Behavioral Health met at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 11, 2009, in Barry Hall's Conference Room 126, 14 Harrington Road, Cranston, Rhode Island.

Members Present: Neil Corkery, Acting Chair; Scotti DiDonato, Sandra DelSesto; Mark Fields; James Gillen; Richard Hill; Joseph Le; Peter Mendoza; Anne Mulready.

Ex-Officio Members Present: Sandy Woods, Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF); Fredrick Friedman, Department of Corrections (DOC); and Craig Stenning, Director, Department of Mental Health, Retardation and Hospitals.

Guests: Vivian Weisman, Dr. Robin Montvilo, Jen Desjarlais, Erica Russo, Shana Warot, Maria Waldeck, Bruce Long, Ian Knowles.

Staff: Charles Williams, Corinna Roy and Lisa Stevens

Once a quorum was established, the Acting Chair, Neil Corkery, called the meeting to order at 8:45 p.m. After introductions were conducted, Neil entertained a motion to accept the Minutes of May 12, 2009. Sandra DelSesto motioned to approve and Joseph Le seconded the motion. Neil Corkery called for a vote to approve the minutes, all were in favor and the minutes were approved as written.

**Subcommittees:** Corinna explained that Rich Leclerc is looking to identify chairs to the subcommittees formed. Once that is done the meetings of the subcommittees will begin. *Attachment I* The membership list of the subcommittees was passed to the members of the Council for additions or corrections, which should be emailed to Corinna so she can add or delete members from this list. The Mental Health Block Grant subcommittee will be time limited, the other two will be more long-term. Craig Stenning presented the Committee with a draft proposal *attachment II* that the Governor's Council on Behavioral Health establish a subcommittee for person centered, self directed, recovery system of care (replacing the NAMI subcommittee) – MHRH will staff the committee but not be members of the committee. The chair entertained a motion that the recommendation for the change in this committee be adopted. Jim Gillen made the motion which was seconded by Anne Mulready. Sandra DelSesto made a friendly amendment that Ian Knowles be added as the third co-chair of this committee. The proposal was voted on and all were in favor. This should take effect immediately.

**Updates from MHRH:** Craig mentioned a bill submitted to change the name of this Department; eliminating the word "Retardation." This bill was introduced without notice to the Department. This renaming needs to include mental health, substance abuse, developmental disabilities and hospitals. The new name should have an acronym that can be easily used. Joseph Le suggested the use of a public campaign to try to come up with a list of potential names to be submitted to a respected committee which would select a name from the list.

Budget related items have been very time consuming for the Director for the past few weeks and he is looking forward to again working on programs for the Department after the budget has been posted.

Craig explained the state accounting system as it pertains to state, federal and CNOM revenue. He explained how the expenditures from certain accounts would change the effect on other accounts. He also explained how this created the delay of payments to providers and how these delays would be fixed.

**OLD/NEW BUSINESS:**

New: Jim Gillen announced there will be a press conference on Tuesday at City Hall regarding Closing the Addiction Treatment Gap.

Craig Stenning announced that a letter went out to the Executive Directors of all of our substance abuse providers and our community mental health organizations notifying them that the Community Medication Assistance Program (CMAP), which has approximately 1700 clients, has been converted to an electronic system so that most major pharmacies are now part of the program. Effective July 1, 2009 two new drugs to help with alcoholism, Buprenorphine (Trade name is Suboxone) and Naltrexone (Trade name is Vivitrol) will be added to the CMAP formulary.

Upon motion made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m. The next meeting of the Council is scheduled for **Tuesday July 14, 2009, at 1:00 p.m. in the first floor Conference Room 126 at the Barry Hall Building.**

Minutes respectfully recorded and written by:

Lisa Stevens  
Secretary, Governor's Council on Behavioral Health