

CALBHB/C Governing Board Minutes

November 20, 2020, 11:30 am

Zoom Teleconference

Governing Board Attendance: President Harriette Stevens, Ed.D. (San Francisco), VP Benny Benavidez, Secty/Treas.), Supervisor Stacy Corless (Mono), Bill Stewart (San Diego), Jerry Harris (Ventura), Kristine Haataja (Napa), Lynda Kaufmann Rodriguez (Santa Cruz), Shera Banbury (Nevada); **Staff:** Theresa Comstock, Executive Director

Minutes: Jerry Harris made a motion to approve the October 30th Minutes. Kristine Haataja seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Financials: A "Statement of Activity" and "Statement of Financial Position", both dated November 17, 2020 were discussed, along with A/R Aging Detail, showing \$49,800 in outstanding dues invoices. Total Assets reported: \$143,204.52. Jerry Harris made a motion to approve the Financial Reports as presented; Benny Benavidez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

GB members discussed adjusting the budget to allow for one or two interns. President Stevens, Kristine Haataja and Theresa Comstock agreed to discuss budget and qualifications. Members agreed to further discuss this item at the December GB meeting.

Recognition of Mae Sherman: All attendees shared fond memories and recognized the contributions, care and love shown by [Mae Sherman](#), who had served CALBHB/C for a number of years as Secretary and Secretary-Treasurer. Her welcoming spirit, positivity and interest in serving the community were very much appreciated. CALBHB/C and its members will miss her very much.

Members discussed ways to publicly recognize Mae. Suggestions included: 1) Request Resolution of Recognition by Assemblymember Dahle (CA District 1); 2) Name the Annual Meeting after Mae; 3) Create an annual award related to our work or work of a board or commission that did a great job for the year. Comstock will follow-up on these ideas for recognition.

2021 Annual Goals: Members discussed the following additions/changes to the [2020 Annual Goals](#).

Goals/Objectives: Add Local Meetings during COVID: Work with Local Boards/Commissions to maintain meeting schedules during COVID (Add to Objective A: Provide information, guidance, and training to local MHB/BHBs...)

Issues for Advocacy:

1. **Crisis Care Continuum** - Adjustments to 2020 Top Issue for Advocacy # 3: Crisis Care Continuum for all ages to include: Peer Respite, Crisis Stabilization Units (all ages), Mobile Crisis, Crisis Residential). Members asked for this item to specifically call out:
 - a. **5150's** - Reducing 5150's
 - i. Try to resolve through advocacy/legislation
 - ii. Find best practices
 - b. **Emergency Room Use** - Increase alternatives to Emergency Rooms (such as Crisis Stabilization Units, Peer Respite and Mobile Crisis) for screening, review

and evaluation. If individuals are evaluated properly, many would not be sent to psychiatric hospitals.

2. Access to Behavioral Health for Individuals who are:

- a. Gravely Disabled - Engagement and access for individuals who are homeless, deteriorating and refuse treatment.
- b. Medically Indigent - Behavioral Health agencies are requiring medical clearance, but individuals who are unable to pay, cannot be cleared medically (with COVID-19 requirements).
- c. Homeless
- d. Do not have Medi-Cal

3. Telehealth

- a. Resources for remote access
- b. Resources to improve effectiveness

4. Behavioral Health Workforce

- a. **Living Wage** requirement in local contracts
- b. **Peer Support**
 1. Wages
 2. Funding

Executive Director's Report:

- I. [Children & Youth Issue Brief](#) - After review and suggestions from GB members, the issue brief has been finalized.
- II. A Cultural Competency Draft document was discussed. The final version may be added to "Best Practices", and/or further developed as an issue brief. GB members shared related ideas/resources: Supporting & Expanding CIT with Cultural Practices; www.thinkculturalhealth.hhs.gov ; [Copeland Center](#) and www.justiceclearinghouse.com .
- III. Statewide Collaboration:
 - a. Mental Health Services Oversight & Accountability Commission
 - i. We continue to wait for a new contract, to be shared with the GB for potential approval once received. It is anticipated that the new contract will provide funding to more fully cover the cost of contract deliverables.
 - ii. MHSOAC Workplace (SB 1113) Mental Health Project Interview - Comstock will meet with MHSOAC-hired consultants regarding mental health in the workplace. GB Members offered the following suggestions/promising practices:
 1. Living Wage Agreements in county contracts.
 2. Mental Health First Aid Training
 - a. Nevada County - Training providing to county employees and providers
 - b. San Diego - Training provided to county employees and in schools.
 - b. Mental Health America of CA
 - i. **Mental Health Matters Day**- CALBHB/C participated in a virtual exhibit at the recent "Mental Health Matters Day" event. This did not appear to be a successful way to exhibit (only one person entered chat). However, the on-line event/speakers were quite good.

- ii. **Connection Coalition** - Comstock is participating with a Connection Coalition committee to define principles for engagement and advocacy and set priorities for 2021.

Meetings and Training Schedule

- c. GB Teleconferences (all 11:30 am): December 18, January 29
- d. CALBHB/C Southern/LA Meeting (Teleconference open statewide), January - TBA
- e. CALBHB/C Southern/LA Training (Teleconference open statewide), January - TBA

Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 12:43 pm.