

CALBHB/C Governing Board Minutes

November 18, 2022, 11:30 am

Zoom Teleconference

Governing Board Attendance: President Benny Benavidez (Imperial), VP Bill Stewart (San Diego), Secty/Treas. Kristine Haataja (Napa), Stacy Dalglish (Los Angeles), Manuel Fletes Medina (Glenn County), Harriette Stevens, Ed.D. (San Francisco)

Absent: Shera Banbury (Nevada), Michael Rodriguez (Ventura), Supervisor Stacy Corless (Mono)

Staff: Theresa Comstock, Executive Director

The meeting was called to order at 11:32 a.m. by President Benny Benavidez.

1. Open Comment & Introductions:

Kristine attended a community screening of "[Hiding in Plain Sight](#)," a PBS documentary about youth mental health; a panel discussion on youth mental health followed. Also, This Is My Brave has released a documentary on youth mental health called "[Our Turn to Talk](#)."

Past Governing Board Member, Patrick Ogawa, has been appointed to L.A. County's Hospital and Health Care Delivery Commission

2. Minutes:

Motion: Bill made a motion to approve the September 23rd Governing Board Minutes; Harriette seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Financial Reports:

Financial Reports: Total current assets as of November 9, 2022, were \$148,646. Received additional checks, making revenue close to plan. About 20 counties need to pay their dues.

Motion: Stacy Dalglish made a motion to accept the financials as presented, and Bill seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Annual Goals for 2023 Discussion:

- Workforce, Crisis Care Continuum, and Housing are the top three concerns mentioned by local boards/commissions in the past year.
- Stacy noted that racism and race equity was a topic discussed at the Planning Council.
- Interns have reported that Community Engagement has been discussed by many boards.
- Bill spoke about the experience he has had as San Diego Chair, noting that it appears that his position as chair has seemed to upset some people because of race; they are not experienced in having a black leader. He also believes that gender is also an issue, especially when women are in a leadership position.
- Stacy believes that all of us who are white and privileged need to continue to raise the issue of racism and inequity. Harriette suggested that this should be an overarching theme in our goals. Kristine noted that we need to include Latinx and indigenous people in terms of mental health equity.

- Bill added that representation is also necessary in the workforce. In San Diego, they have added a position as an Equity Director, and he wants to get an update and perspective from this person.
- Theresa suggested that we address issues regarding race and equity in the beginning of our goals, with a focus on weaving diversity, equity and inclusion throughout local behavioral health systems, including data that both identifies unserved/underserved, but also tracks performance outcomes by race, ethnicity, culture, and LGBTQ. It would be good to encourage The Planning Council Performance Outcomes Committee to focus on performance outcomes related to wellness by race/ethnicity. Harriette noted that we may have race/ethnicity equity in our goals, but we need to see the impact on our communities.
- As a Board, we continue to add issues to our list, but it may be better to have a focus. Kristine suggested more focus on equity, not just as an overarching theme.
- We discussed how to fulfill the responsibility of being representative of the community we serve. How do we provide the training to make boards both more representative and more accepting of the opinions/leadership of people with different race/ethnicity? In addition to recruiting and appointing new members, we need to make sure that we on-board/train them.
- Theresa mentioned the three top issue areas reported by local board/commission members: housing and homelessness (including adult residential facilities (ARFs) and residential care facilities for the elderly (RCFEs)), workforce, and crisis care continuum.
- In terms of workforce, Stacy is concerned about the number of clinicians who have not returned to work or to work in person.
- Theresa mentioned that CALBHB/C is uniquely positioned to provide support and advocacy for standardization of performance outcome data. Benny mentioned that the outcomes and how the counties compare is critical information, but more outcomes should be standardized. Seeing outcomes is the only way that we can see how well our departments are performing.
- Bill believes that this is a window of opportunity for mental health because of state focus and spending. It's important that we provide positive outcomes to justify this emphasis. Bill suggested that we identify our primary areas of focus as well as other concerns [resource needs] which could be listed after DEI and Performance Outcomes.
- Theresa will refine the section and bring it back to the Board next month.

5. Review CALBHB/C Events:

- October 21 Quarterly Meeting/Training (Hybrid: Zoom & Sacramento)
Benny believed the meetings went well and that participation was good. Harriette thought the meeting was well organized and that it was good to work with the Planning Council.
- November 4 Board & Care Teleconference
The speakers were informative and presented well. There was so much information and the issues so complex that it was difficult to digest. There was good representation from across the state and the sharing of stories with other boards is good.

6. Executive Director's Report

a. Statewide Collaboration

1. ARF/RCFE Core Group - CALBHB/C, NAMI CA, NAMI GLA, LARCA, and CBHDA: NAMI CA has hired a lobbyist/consultant. The group is planning to expand to include other advocacy groups. Theresa may consider whether we should hire a lobbyist to support our advocacy.

2. LARCA - LA Residential Care Association approved CALBHB/C as a "Partner": Theresa did a presentation of the tiered levels of funding and what is needed to make residential care effective. The group wants to add the CALBHB/C logo to their website as a partner. The Board expressed consensus to letting them include our logo as a partner.
3. DHCS 1115(a) Waiver - CalBH-CBC Demonstration Projects (Concept Paper)
Theresa reviewed the documents and the Federal guidelines. She advocated to include elements that are on the Federal level, for example, if you are earning an income that puts you outside of the limit for MEDI-CAL, you could "buy in" so you could keep the program.
- b. Communications: Fall 2022 Newsletter: Newsletter went out after the last GB meeting
- c. Publications Updated: ARF Issue Brief & WIC 5604 & Brown Act Guide & Best Practices: Some of the documents required updating because of the addition of the Veterans/Veterans Advocate membership requirement, and changes to the Brown Act.
- d. Correspondence: CALBHB/C was mentioned in Letter to CA DHCS: An individual in San Francisco wrote a letter to the head of CA DHCS, mentioning/copying CALBHB/C. In regard to CALBHB/C, the letter made an assertion that was later rescinded regarding the accuracy of CALBHB/C's MHS Community Planning materials.
- e. Membership – Martel Okonji (LA County) resigned due to time constraints
- f. Legislation (Anticipated bills/budget items)
 1. Prohibit Prior Authorization Requirements for Psychotropic Medications (MHA of CA Connection Coalition & Psychiatric Physicians Alliance of CA)
 2. ARFs/RCFEs - Increase capacity to 7 to bypass local zoning/planning oversight (CA Commission on Aging)
 3. ARFs/RCFEs - Budget ask for statewide patch to increase funding (NAMI CA)

7. Upcoming Meetings/Trainings:

- a. **Governing Board Meetings** (Fridays at 11:30 am): February 10, March 10
- b. **CALBHB/C Teleconference Events:**
 - Workforce Teleconference: Advising to meet local workforce, education, and training needs. December 2nd, 11 am - 12:30 pm
 - Community Engagement & Unconscious Bias Training (Teleconference) January 6th, 12 pm - 2:30 pm
 - Chair & Admin Training (Teleconference) January 13th, 11 am - 12:30 pm
- c. **CALBHB/C Quarterly/Regional Meetings/Trainings** – There was discussion regarding moving back to a schedule of 2-Day CALBHB/C meetings/Trainings following the CA BH Planning Council Meetings.
Projected Dates:
January 20th/21st Hybrid: San Diego & Zoom (*and/or June 16th/17th?*)
Friday, April 21/22nd - Hybrid: Sacramento & Zoom
Friday, June 16th/17th? - Hybrid: Southern CA & Zoom
August 25th - Hybrid: Superior Region (Redding or Chico) (Outside of Planning Council Schedule)

8. Quarterly Planning Council Meetings:

The Planning Council is keeping the January meeting in San Diego, but the April meeting will now be in Sacramento. The June Meeting will be in Southern California, location to be determined.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:34 pm.