

ALCOHOL, DRUG ADDICTION AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES BOARD OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

June 23, 2010

Committee Members Present: Eugenia Cash, Bob Fowler, Rev. Charlotte Still Noble, Harvey Snider, Ericka Thoms, Mary Warr / **Absent:** Amy Leopard

Board Staff Present: William M. Denihan, C.E.O., Rose Fini, Tami Fischer, John Garrity, Carol Krajewski, Scott Osiecki, Christine Paternoster, Yancey Quinn, Cassandra Richardson, Starlette Sizemore-Rice

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Rev. Charlotte Still Noble called the Executive Committee meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. There was no audience input regarding agenda items.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Without objection, the Executive Committee minutes of May 5, 2010 were approved as mailed.

3. BOARD OF DIRECTORS RETREAT DISCUSSION

Rev. Still Noble noted that, by statute, Board of Directors are required to have 3 hours of training per year; consequently, she asked Executive Committee members for input on possible topics for the training/retreat session. Tentative plans are to hold a Board retreat on a Saturday morning in August; date yet to be determined.

Feedback on Retreat Topics:

- Discuss how to become more visible at the state/federal level to demonstrate our unique funding needs.
- Speaker of the House, Armond Budish, his lieutenants, and other legislators should be asked to attend the retreat in order to inform them of our needs and funding challenges.
- Healthcare Reform and the impact on our system.

Mr. Snider moved to adopt a resolution from the ADAMHS Board of Directors that invites the present Speaker of the House, his staff and other legislators available to appear at the Board Retreat in August with the intent to inform them of the fundamental issues around the potential lack of funds for tens of thousands of consumers. MOTION: H. Snider / SECOND: B. Fowler / AYES: E. Cash, B. Fowler, H. Snider, E. Thoms, M. Warr / NAYS: None / **Motion passed.**

Ms. Thoms suggested that the letter or resolution might be more impressive if signed individually by each of the Board of Directors. She wished to acknowledge the extensive work of Mr. Denihan and Board staff at the state level. Dr. Fowler suggested that at least three potential dates should be provided to the Speaker of the House so that his presence would set the retreat date.

4. COMMITTEE CHAIRS & MEMBERS

The Chair read aloud a resignation letter received on 6/23/10 from Board member, Amy S. Leopard, Esq.

"It is with great sadness that I must resign my position on the Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board of Cuyahoga County due to my current travel schedule. It has been an honor and a pleasure serving the consumers of Cuyahoga County with my fellow Board members from ADAS and the MHB and the fine staff.

Thanks for the leadership and best wishes for continued success in dealing with the many issues facing our community and state. Please do not hesitate to reach out if there is any way that I can help." Sincerely, Amy S. Leopard

Committee Assignments for ADAMHS Board of Directors from 7/1/10 through 6/30/11 were distributed. Rev. Still Noble explained that reconfiguring committee assignments was her way of providing leadership opportunities for as many Board members as possible. She noted that she had contact with all Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs, past and future, prior to the completion of the committee assignments. As new Board members are appointed, they will fill vacant spots on committees. (The handout is attached to the original minutes stored in the Executive Committee.)

5. COUNTY TRANSITION

With regard to the County transition, Mr. Denihan reported that there are 13 different subcommittees and many of the transition meetings are being held in our facility. Mr. Denihan noted that a schedule for the various community forums and meetings are listed on the County Web site; the Mental Health Advocacy Coalition is scheduling a meeting with the County Executive candidates.

In terms of our Board's role, Mr. Denihan suggested that it is in our best interest to let County Executive candidates and County Council know that our Board has been flat funded and has been stigmatized in the funding practices over the past five years. He added further that we need to let all candidates know: 1) who we represent and our combined interest in the equity distribution of funds for services or (2) consider seriously the possibility of having an independent behavioral health levy.

6. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

- The Chair noted that immediately prior to the Executive Committee meeting, a CEO performance review team met with Mr. Denihan. After an additional meeting or two, the review team will report out to the full Board. The discussion is looking at the four goals set for FY2010. Rev. Noble shared that Mr. Denihan prepared an extensive document listing the extraordinary accomplishments and leadership which will also be shared with Board staff.
- Ms. Laurie Rokakis, a social worker who works at Congressman Dennis J. Kucinich's Office, reported that a very informative 2-page report entitled, "The Facts on Health Reform" has been produced which summarizes the newly enacted health reform law reforms. Ms. Rokakis offered to obtain copies for ADAMHS Board members.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Submitted by: Carol Krajewski, Executive Specialist

Approved by: Rev. Charlotte Still Noble, ADAMHS Board Chairperson