

	<h1 style="text-align: center;">Mental Health Advisory Committee</h1> <p style="text-align: center;">Minutes – November 4, 2022</p>
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Members Present	Members Absent	Ex-Officio and Staff Present	Ex-Officio and Staff Absent	Guests
Jennifer Grinnell	Jamie Gu	Meredith Peace	Michael Chindbloom	Laura Mitchell
Stephanie Joseph	Michelle Grigsby-Hackett	Rolando Santiago	Michael Maher	Alan Orenstein
Susan Kerin			Regina Morales	Samikshya Sapkota
Helga Luest			Kyle Potter	
Tami Mark				
Garrett Mannchen				
Libby Nealis				
Celia Serkin				

- I. **Welcome** – The meeting came to order at 7:04 p.m. Helga Luest and Susan Kerin chaired the meeting. There was a quorum of committee members.
- II. **Old Business**
 - a. September and October Minutes – The minutes for the September and October 2022 meetings were approved.

III. New Business

- a. Elections for new executive board to start in November – Jennifer Grinnell motioned to approve Susan Kerin as the new Chair and Libby Nealis as the Vice Chair. It was approved.
- b. Thank you to Helga and Susan – Diane thanked the former Chair and Vice Chair for their leadership.
- c. Presentation to the County Council's HHS Committee – Helga presented MHAC's budget and advocacy priorities to the County Council's HHS committee. She shared the feedback from the Council members and Dr. Santiago also provided details of how BCHS is already working on some of these items. Below is the report back as well as MHAC's proposal for addressing the Council's feedback requests.
 - i. Foster Joint Meeting with Other Boards – MHAC has had some collaborations in the past as well as routine overlap with AODAC and the Asian American Health Initiative:
Action: MHAC approved having Diane write to the 12 other Boards to learn what they are doing and if there are areas of overlap to collaborate.
 - ii. Prevention and Community Connectedness – Dr. Santiago mentioned a few community outreach efforts. Helga noted that the Council was referencing prevention particularly for marginalized groups and beyond the public school system. *Action: A subgroup will meet to explore a response to this. Volunteers included Libby, Susan K. Celia, Stephanie, Helga and Sami.*
 - iii. Outreach to Local Universities for Workforce Development – BCHS has MOUs with several universities to get interns. These include Historically Black Colleges and Universities. *Action: There is already a workforce subcommittee. So, they will be tasked with working on this.*
 - iv. School Funding Opportunities in Addition to Medicaid Reimbursement – *Action: Libby will write a letter from MHAC to send to the County Council. It will request that they set up a meeting with the School Administration to discuss this issue.*
 - v. Additional Funding for CCBHCs – Cornerstone has a grant for an CCBHC and BCHS is exploring additional funding opportunities. The Biden-Harris Administration [just announced](#) additional resources for CCBHC funding. There will be no action on this as BCHS already has been engaged with this. MHAC asked Dr. Santiago to keep them informed if there is a way to support his efforts.

- vi. Community Education and Outreach – County Council mentioned options like using Next Door to promote county resources (e.g., 988 and mental health first aid). Jennifer indicated that EveryMind has funds to provide some of these services. *Action: This topic will be discussed by the Prevention and Community Connectedness Committee.*
- d. AODAAC update – Laura Mitchell noted that AODAAC has new members. The Committee has been preparing for the legislative season by looking at last year’s priorities and their status. Some of the key areas of concern are:
 - i. Age of Consent – While it has been lowered to age 12, MCPS is not honoring this because of some administrative issues. AODAAC is exploring having a determination from the Attorney General’s Office. If AODAAC does pursue this, Laura will let MHAC members know in case we want to sign on to the request.
 - ii. Consumer Health Access Program – This did not pass. Laura has been having conversations with Delegate Cullison about elevating this issue in the next legislative session. Delegate Cullison was interested in having the program run by a state entity. However, Laura pointed out several issues both in terms of hiring and trust from the consumer.
 - iii. Balance Billing – This legislation passed and specifies that if insurance entities cannot provide services in-network, they must provide options out-of-network at no additional cost. Many citizens are unaware of this option.
- e. Next meeting – There will be no December meeting, so the next General meeting is January 3, 2023.
- f. Vacancy notice – The notice for new MHAC members was posted and the deadline is tomorrow. Diane informed all members with expiring memberships that they would need to re-apply to remain on the Commission. Jennifer and Libby agreed to serve on the interview committee.

IV. Announcements from Commissioners and/or the Public

- a. Testimony on AIB Blueprint – There is an opportunity for testimony on November 10th. Libby and Celia agreed to draft written testimony. Susan and Diane requested that it be submitted by Monday, November 7th so that there is time to review and approve it.

- b. Presentations for Upcoming Meetings – January’s meeting will focus on a presentation by Dan Martin and a report back from the legislative committee. Celia asked that later in the year, MHAC have a presentation focused on the history of Systems of Care/Wraparound Services. She and Dr. Santiago had speaker recommendations.

III. Subcommittees – Members volunteered for specific subcommittees.

- a. Legislative Subcommittee will include Celia, Libby, Susan, Laura and Tami.
- b. MRSS Subcommittee will include Celia, Laura, Susan and Tami.
- c. Workforce Development Committee will include Susan, Stephanie and Meredith
- d. Medicaid Reimbursement for School Services will include Libby, Celia and Kyle
- e. There will not be subcommittees for MHAC’s prior work on suicide and climate change. Commission members involved in this work will continue to report back to the general MHAC meeting as warranted.

IV. Meeting Adjourned – The meeting ended at 8:56 pm.