

Mental Health Advisory Committee

Minutes – September 7, 2017

Members Present	Members Absent	Ex-Officio and Staff Present	Ex-Officio and Staff Absent	Guests
Jeannette Bjorklund	Tali Elitzur	Scott Greene	Raymond Crowel	Bryan Belcher
Kevin Bryant	Scott Davis	Meredith Peace		Jessica Kronstadt
Michelle Grigsby-Hackett	Lawrence Epp	Deborah Phillips		Tracey Neal Walden
Jennifer Jones	Daphne Klein			Alice Zic
Kiki Li				
Garrett Mannchen				
Tami Mark				
David Myles				
Celia Serkin				
Karishma Sheth				
Susan Smith				
Amy Sutter				

A. Welcome MHAC Members and Guests

B. July minutes—approved

Commented [GM1]: FYI Diane, I wasn't here for this portion.

- C. Speaker—Tracy Neal Walden, Ph.D spoke about her new clinic, the Steven A. Cohen Military Family Clinic at Easter Seals, located at 1420 Spring St. in Silver Spring. The clinic opened its doors in mid-August. Dr. Walden explained the clinic's services, which are intended to provide free or low-cost mental health services to veterans and their families or caregivers. Dr. Walden encouraged clinicians and crisis services to make referrals to her clinic.
- D. BHCS Update—Scott Greene discussed the recent "Brain Futures" conference he attended at the National Harbor, the efforts to integrate CSA, census issues at the state hospital, the kickoff of Recovery Month, FFS service training being offered by Beacon, and possible state and federal cuts to mental health funding in the upcoming fiscal year, among other topics.
- E. Chair Report—
1. Kiki Li summarized a conference call held with Dr. Crowel and some MHAC Committee Members in which Dr. Crowel made some suggestions for potential priorities for the Committee to consider.
 2. Kiki Li announced a breakfast meeting to be held on October 15 with the HHS Committee, which includes Councilmembers Leventhal, Rice, and Berliner. The Committee discussed proposed priorities for that breakfast, including providing funding to expand the Mental-Health Court staff, expanding the STEER initiative, implementing a restoration center in the county detention center, providing funding to incentivize the use of telehealth for mental-health services. The MHAC committee members scheduled a conference call for September 26, 2017, to discuss a draft document outlining MHAC priorities for the 2018 budget year.
 3. Nomination Committee—Diane announced the formation of a nomination committee to oversee the nominations and election of the chair and vice chair for terms starting in November. Diane recommended voting in 2 chairs and 2 vice chairs with the

permission of the County Executive's office and after seeking counsel from the County Attorney's office. The MHAC committee members circulated a sign-up sheet to serve on the nominations committee.

- F. Commissioner Jeannette Bjorklund presented on Assisted Outpatient Treatment ("AOT") and HB 1383, which Governor Hogan signed earlier this year and which authorized an Outpatient Civil Commitment pilot project in Baltimore City. Bjorklund requested a committee to advocate for AOT. After discussion a Kiki Li moved to authorize a study group to investigate the merits of AOT and make a recommendation to the MHAC. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
- G. Springfield Hospital Update—Debbie Phillips, LCSW-C provided an update on Springfield Hospital, including two new appointments.
- H. Announcements—Celia Serkin announced an opening with Bridges to the Future; Michelle Grigsby-Hackett announced a job opening as a director for the Affiliated Sante Group; Kiki Li announced an upcoming conference call; Celia Serkin announced MHAC's need to set up a meeting with Chuck Short after the 2018 priorities document is finalized.
- I. Adjourned