

	<h1 style="text-align: center;">Mental Health Advisory Committee</h1> <p style="text-align: center;">Minutes – September 6, 2018</p>
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Members Present	Members Absent	Ex-Officio and Staff Present	Ex-Officio and Staff Absent	Guests
Jeannette Bjorklund	Tami Mark	Scott Green	Raymond Crowel	Sanujshya Sapkota
Scott Davis	Karishma Sheth	Meredith Peace		Sunil Dasgupta
Daphne Klein		Michael Maher for Deborah Phillips		
Michelle Grigsby-Hackett		Elizabeth Rathbone		
Kiki Li				
Jennifer Jones				
Garrett Mannchen				
David Myles				
Celia Serkin				
Susan Smith				
Amy Sutter				

I. Introductions

- II. Welcome MHAC Members and Guests (Jennifer Jones, Chair)
- III. Review and Approval of April, June, and July meeting minutes (Jennifer)

1. Motion to adopt the minutes for the past three meetings made by Celia Serkin
2. Seconded by Amy Sutter
3. The committee voted unanimously in favor of the motion.
4. The motion passed.

IV. Chair Report

1. Voting for executive committee in October (Diane)—Diane passed around a sign-up sheet for committee members interested in serving on the nominating committee
2. Sign up to take minutes (Diane)—Diane passed around a sign-up sheet to take minutes for meetings the rest of the year.
3. Breakfast with HHS committee of the county council (Jennifer)—prepare two priorities—these will come out of our discussion: Jennifer explained that the breakfast will be held on October 22. The priorities document is due October 15.
4. Interview committee (Diane)—new members were selected awaiting word from the County executive's office. Orientation for new members will be held as soon as they are appointed.

V. Discussion about Priorities (Jennifer)—sub-committee that met during summer came up with new priority recommendations after meeting with Dr. Crowel and researching the issues: Jennifer summarized the process the sub-committee went through to develop the draft "MHAC's top priorities FY 20" document.

1. Eliminated CORP because the grant ended in December 2017; HHS supported the grant with additional funds through the end of 2018; In the FY 19 budget, HHS funded \$60,000 to fund a Forensic Assertive Community Treatment (FACT) team's startup costs, which will be run by People Encouraging People using CORP staff. The program will become self-sustaining by billing Medicaid eventually; the program will increase its staff over time.
2. Staffing issues—Jennifer will follow up with Dr. Crowel before sending the priorities letter, making sure the vacancy number we report is accurate.
3. Jennifer discussed telehealth as a priority.
4. Jennifer explained the Nexus Montgomery Grant
5. Jennifer & Jeanette Bjorklund (co-vice chair) discussed Assertive Outpatient Treatment (AOT). It was not included in the priorities document because more information is needed before the committee makes recommendations to the Council. Jeannette shared information she received about a pilot program. She reported that AOT is supported by NAMI and SAMHSA.
6. Jennifer discussed drop-in centers for homeless youth with mental illnesses. It was not included in the budget. There were problems with choosing a location and hours.
7. The committee discussed state cuts to crisis funds. The state reversed its decision. Discussion of additional funding for texting services at the crisis hotline.
8. The committee discussed visitation centers.
9. The committee discussed domestic violence shelters.
10. The committee discussed mental health parity. According to The Parity Project, Maryland ranks the third worst state in parity.
11. Amy Sutter moved to adopt the priorities document. Jeanette seconded.

The committee voted unanimously in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

VI. What subcommittees do we want to have this year?

1. The committee discussed possible subcommittees.
2. Susan Smith moved to adopt three subcommittees: (1) Legislative, (2) AOT, and (3) Access to Care Across the Lifespan (Access). Michelle Grigsby-Hackett seconded. The committee voted unanimously in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

VII. Springfield Hospital update (Debbie Phillips, LCSW-C)

1. The hospital is at capacity with 220 patients. The staff is trying to anticipate discharges to coordinate with the Department of Corrections for transfers, so the hospital can remain at capacity.
2. Waystations is opening a new residential crisis facility with 16 beds, that is limited to a 90-day stay. It is meant as a step-down facility and is expected to open in the fall.
3. Discussed a centralized admissions system. The committee voted unanimously in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

IX. BCHS update (Scott Green)

1. State & county level funded this year.
2. BCHS took over substance-use disorders (SUD)
3. Halfway houses services are moving from grants to fee-for-service (FFS) effective January 1, 2019. Avery House residential has already moved successfully to FFS.
4. A new Veterans facility is opening on September 7; Scott will be attending the ribbon-cutting ceremony.
5. Scott provided an update of Healthy Montgomery

X. Announcements—including members of the public

1. Scott Davis briefed the committee about a recent meeting with hospital officials to discuss data and Emergency Petition patients. David Myles suggested the Access sub-committee can investigate alternative approaches to Emergency Department treatment of mental health patients.
2. Montgomery County Public Schools, Montgomery County Parent Teachers Association is hosting a mental health safety forum on January 12, 2019.
3. Susan Smith announced a Healthy Montgomery training on September 7 from 8-3 at the Silver Spring Civic Center.
4. Susan Smith announced that HUD awarded 99 vouchers to Montgomery County for getting people with disabilities out of institutionalized settings. It includes people in a residential rehabilitation program and homeless individuals. It will be used to get people off the wait list.

XI. **Meeting Adjourned 9pm**