



OGLE COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH (708) BOARD

MINUTES OF THE November 5, 2020 Meeting

On November 5, 2020 Dorothy Bowers called a meeting of the 708 Board to order at 7:30 a.m. utilizing Zoom meeting ID 394-790-2090, at the call of the secretary and notice given to each board member and notice posted at the Ogle County Courthouse. Dorothy Bowers presided.

The secretary called the roll:

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dorothy Bowers (President/Ogle County Board Liaison)
Kathleen Wilson (Vice-President)
Renee Barnhart
Marcella Haushahn
Amy Zbinden Henkel
Bill Sigler
Haley Whaley

ABSENT:

Margaret Tyne (Secretary/Treasurer)

OTHERS PRESENT:

Easter Seals represented by Patti Mook
HOPE represented by Ruth Carter
Lutheran Social Services of Illinois represented by Chris Mills
Rockford Sexual Assault Counseling, Inc. represented by Maureen Mostacci
Serenity represented by Angie Theisen
Sinnissippi Center's Inc. represented by Patrick Phalen and Ashley Koza
Village of Progress represented by Brion Brooks

The Chair announced that we have a quorum.

Approval of Agenda: **Kathleen Wilson moved to accept the agenda as presented. Amy Zbinden Henkel seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Review and approval of the October minutes was done. **Marcella Haushahn moved to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Kathleen Wilson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Review and approval of the agency vouchers for November 2020. **Kathleen Wilson moved to approve the vouchers as submitted. Amy Zbinden Henkel seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

The financial report for November 2020 was presented. **A motion was made by Marcella Haushahn to approve the financial reports as presented. Kathleen Wilson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Officer's Report:

President - Dorothy Bowers - nothing outside of agenda contents.

Vice President - Kathleen Wilson – nothing outside of the agenda contents.

Unfinished Business and Possible:

708 Facebook Page Committee (Renee Barnhart, Bill Sigler and Kathleen Wilson) – Kathe reported that they do have a template set up and it is not live yet. Renee is waiting on historical information from Dorothy and Justine. Justine found a little snip it and sent it to her but has not found anything else to date.

Bill announced that his term on the board expires on 12/31/20 and he does not intend to renew the request for reappointment. His personal life has gotten very involved with his wife and beginning her fight with breast cancer and he feels that he is doing a disservice to sit on the seat as his focus will be with his family. He has been honored to sit on the board for many years and has truly enjoyed his involvement.

Will continue discussions on this for the next meeting.

Brochure – Planning to launch on the Facebook page. Looking to develop list for distribution and feel that it would mirror that of the Human Service Directory in the past. Could run the brochure in the paper. Distribution mentions include doctors' offices, township buildings, court house, judicial center and senior center. Amy can print a few for the Ogle County Educational Coop (OCEC).

Possible printing costs for two-sided legal sized: library charges \$.30 per page, senior center is approximately \$.20 per page. Brion Brooks stated that they could print at VOP.

Recommendations for placement is appreciated please email to Kathe. Bill said he would deliver throughout the county.

Should there be an ad for the Facebook Page on the brochure?

1 Vacant Seat – No new applications to date.

708 Board to present to the County Board – Kathe did a wonderful job presenting to the board but the acoustics are not good in the room so Dorothy has asked her to do it again at the November 17th board meeting by zoom.

Human Service Directory (light paper) – Run in other papers – Used the extra funds to run this one more time in the life paper. Ruth recommended that it be emailed to the agencies again. She is going to check with a staff member about making a link for people to open it up on a website/Facebook.

New Business, discussion and possible action:

Set Calendar – Kathe stated we should look into the May meetings for the funding hearing and see if we can tweak them to accommodate scheduling better. First meeting in May looks to be long. The two agencies that travel the farthest are on the same day. Address this at the February meeting. Justine will email to the agencies for review and submit requests for us to arrange better time slots. The current calendar has them listed as they have been arranged in the past. Dorothy feels that the proposed May 6th meeting appears to be longer and we may have some new petitioners coming onboard. We may consider opening up more dates as the time gets closer.

Budget – Hold off till December because the board has the meeting to approve on November 17th at 5:30 via Zoom.

708 Analysis – This is also inline with the budget to show what is being funded for 2021.

Liaison Report:

Shining Star – Dorothy Bowers reported they will have a meeting on the 18th but it is normally done on the 11th. It was pushed back a week because of Veteran’s Day.

Ogle County Cares Coalition – Renee Barnhart reported they did a Zoom meeting this month. New organizations on the table including Dave Dorcey with Adult Protective Services. They are working from home completely. Other agencies reporting the same.

Agency Reports:

Newspaper Article – November – Hospice

Rockford Sexual Assault Counseling – Maureen Mostacci reported they are providing all their services to meet needs of clients via Zoom and in person if necessary, especially when it comes to the schools. They are doing hospital response but it has been very slow. They are not sure that they will be allowed in as things continue to progress and the hospitals are changing protocol. A virtual fundraiser has been implemented called “Raising Hope” and is located on their Facebook. Utilizing various items, people bid until all lines are full and then they are raffled off. Maureen will be retiring the end of December and we will be having a different representative moving forward.

Serenity Hospice and Home – Angie Thiesen reported it is National Hospice Month and they will have something in the paper to bring awareness. Little bitter sweet as they normally are able to do programs and advanced directive classes in the community but are not able to do them this year with the current state of the country. Added another social worker to respond to the high demand in their bereavement program. Covid numbers have risen and they are offering Covid anxiety classes for their staff. The Shed classes are still functioning. Art classes for therapy are requested and can only have 6 people at a time so they have long waiting lists.

Kathe asked if they would do the Advanced Directives meeting via Zoom. Nothing is currently scheduled but they can set up a one on one meeting or they can provide online videos for viewing.

Sinnissippi Centers, Inc. – Patrick Phalen feels that the next couple of months will be considered more of survival mode. They are seeing an increase in Covid among their staff. Trying to figure out coverage for the 24/7 requirements for the residential home staff and for the most critical services at this time.

Village of Progress – Brion Brooks reported they are slowly ramping up services since DHS have given the go ahead to do group activities with approximately 10-15 participants. Playing games and trivial stuff with different volunteers coming in. Bingo and sport-based games have become very popular.

Easter Seals – Patti Mook reported on October 24th from 11-3 they did a family fun day at Lowell State Park in Dixon. Families decorated pumpkins, made friendship bracelets and had smores. Dixon Park District set up a haunted walk that was based on the story book style trail. Two families were scheduled on opposite ends of the pavilion at a time and everyone was very happy that they did the walk. Still planning on doing the sensory friendly Santa with Oregon Public Library and Florissa on November 27th and 28th allowing more time for cleaning and sanitizing in between. It will all be done with social distancing measures. A lot of their partner agencies like Star Net and Family Matters are all funded through ISBE and are not allowed to do in person services at this time. ES are still doing phone and connecting with families through the internet.

Hope – Ruth Carter reported that still are doing some meetings in person although most are by phone and secure video counseling. Trying to promote the support group for the teens in the community. Newsletter is being worked on and will have information regarding remote services and information on their upcoming “Adopt a Family” program. They finished up their “Paws for Peace” campaign at the end of October for domestic violence awareness and winners were drawn and posted on their Facebook page. Working with quarantine policies and procedures. Two staff currently on quarantine but others had not been exposed, thankfully. If they should have to shut down, they will transfer the phone line to the Illinois Domestic Violence Hotline and move shelter clients into hotel settings for possibly 10 days. They had applied for additional CARES funding through DHS and have it ready if they need to use it.

Lutheran Social Services of Illinois – Chris Mills submitted following info for report via email because of internet complications.

LSSI continues to provide services through a hybrid of both in-person and virtual options. As case numbers fluctuate, so does our level of caution and we are constantly reviewing our Covid-19 guidelines to ensure that we are serving community members in the safest way possible. In terms of updates, we have purchased Screencastify which will allow the Prevention programs the ability to record educational lessons and presentations and provide them to schools. We are working on getting all of the Prevention employees set up in the Screencastify system. We have also hired a new Youth WORKS employee for Carroll County, which will help each Violence Prevention worker to concentrate on their assigned county and tasks. More interviews are occurring this week to fill the Project LEAD position in Carroll County so we're hoping to get more good news on that front.

Public Comment:

None

There being no objection the meeting was adjourned.

The next regular meeting will be December 3, 2020 via Zoom only with **NO** physical presence.

Respectfully submitted,
Justine Messenger
Recording Secretary

815-238-1829 occmh708bd@gmail.com

Approved: December 3, 2020

Dorothy Bowers, President

Margaret Tyne, Secretary/Treasurer