

ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH TRUST AUTHORITY

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

Teleconference

April 23, 2014

1:30 p.m.

Taken at:

Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority
3745 Community Park Loop, Suite 200
Anchorage, Alaska 99508

Trustees Present:

Paula Easley, Chair
Russ Web

Trust staff present:

Jeff Jessee
Steve Williams
Bill Herman
Katie Baldwin-Johnson
Michael Baldwin
Nancy Burke
Marilyn McMillan
Natasha Pineda
Amanda Lofgren

Others Participating:

Kate Burkhart (via telephone); Denise Daniello (via telephone); Shirley Pittz; Teresa Holt; Sherrie Hinshaw.

PROCEEDINGS

MR. JESSEE asks for a couple of minutes before the meeting starts. He states that one of the most valuable members of the team and family, Bill Herman, is retiring. He presents Mr. Herman with a carving with a kayak to recognize all of the support for the rural outreach trip. He adds that it came from a carver in Kotzebue.

MR. HERMAN thanks all.

(Applause.)

CHAIR EASLEY calls the meeting of the Planning Committee to order and asks for any announcements. There being none, she asks for any changes in the agenda. There being none, she asks for a motion to approve the minutes of February 19, 2014.

TRUSTEE WEBB makes a motion to approve the minutes from February 19, 2014.

There being no objection, the motion is approved.

CHAIR EASLEY asks for everyone to introduce themselves and welcomes all. She moves to the focus area update.

FOCUS AREA UPDATE

MR. HERMAN asks to talk about the Planning Committee's role in potential bylaws issues and asks to add that to the agenda.

CHAIR EASLEY suggests beginning with that now.

MR. HERMAN states that the memo was organized according to the history of what has been happening the last 19 years, and then the history of the Planning Committee was laid out. He continues that the issues mainly addressed in 1995 were what should be in or out of the GF/MH budget and what the mission and guiding principles should be. He adds that one of the early issues was the Harborview Developmental Center, which was an institution where a lot of developmentally disabled folks were far away from their families in Valdez. He continues that the Trust got into the deinstitutionalizing of that facility and getting community services to replace that. He adds that the comp plan was begun by DHSS, and it was a bound document. He moves on to the John Malone era of chairmanship of the Planning Committee from '97 to about '06. He states that the issues picked up by the board were largely driven by Trustees and their backgrounds, along with DHSS involvement, and the statutory Boards and their advocacy. He continues that a planner at DOC was hired, and then mental health programs for both men and women were added, and Title 47 issues were discussed. He continues that substance abuse and mental health integration were gone into and struggled with the Boards to get them to begin to work together. He states that data integration was important and went with AKAIMS, which was built on a federal platform that it is still connected to. He continues that a Beneficiary survey was conducted in 2003, which was all self-reported but never used. He adds that progress was made in Medicaid, especially in the dental area, which was a major effort that occurred. He continues that it was also during the Malone period that the Trust got connected with the tribal system and understanding rural Beneficiary issues. He states that housing was a major issue and worked on encouraging Beneficiaries to own their own homes, individualized developments accounts and things like that. He continues that the focus areas began in 2005. He states that in '07 and '09 it shifted to a Planning Committee of the whole; and Margaret Lowe was the chair. He continues that there were a lot of discussions and agenda items about programmatic concerns related to the focus areas. He adds that there was a rural outreach subcommittee and the trip and the technical assistance. He continues that the comp plan became Web-based, and results-based accountability began to be advanced by the Department and the Trust. He adds that the Alaska scorecard was developed, and the RBA-based planning across the Divisions was started. He

states that his recommendations for the committee are to be a Planning Committee with a few dedicated Trustees encouraging involvement of the other Trustees to come and listen. He continues that there is an increasing understanding of data feedback loops that need to be established to enhance data gathering. He adds that the Planning Committee is getting more educated about the focus areas, the details, the strategies, what is working and what is not working. He states that some of the things that have been done by the Finance Committee should be shifted over to the Planning Committee; approving expenditures of Trust Authority funding within the focus areas, the partnership grants and designated grant funding. He adds that these are his suggestions.

CHAIR EASLEY states appreciation for all that Mr. Herman has done.

A discussion ensues.

TRUSTEE WEBB states that he wholeheartedly agrees on the need to establish a systematic planning process that is not idiopathic and personality dependent. He continues that the role and influence of the staff in setting the direction and pushing things should not be overlooked. He adds that it is important to recognize that staff is a key influence and needs to be built into the infrastructure of what the Planning Committee needs to do. He states that the second recommendation is that it is important for Trustees to set a good boundary between their roles and staff roles. He adds that there has been some Trustee encroachment into the details that should be dealt with at staff level.

CHAIR EASLEY asks Teresa Holt to respond to the evaluation aspect.

MS. HOLT states the need to define what Trust staff is doing, what Board staff is doing, and who is going to do what would be helpful.

MS. BURKHART states that Mr. Herman has identified a key point in a dynamic of the Board, the Council and the Commission, which is the role of the Board members in setting the Boards' priorities. She continues that it has taken a lot of work for the Boards to understand that once a recommendation is made and advocated for that it needs to be minded. She adds that it also has taken a bit of work to educate the Department that once an increment is secured that it is not done. She states that it would be helpful to set some mutually acceptable parameters and ground rules for how this all works between the Boards, the Department and the Trust.

MR. HERMAN states that the behavioral systems assessment has the possibility of enhancing the AMHB/ABADA connection with the Department if it is worked right.

CHAIR EASLEY recognizes Denise Daniello.

MS. DANIELLO thanks Mr. Herman for all his good work over the years and for providing so much guidance in the results-based accountability method and the many other things he has done. She states that the responsibility of program evaluation is much bigger than the Commission on Aging to evaluate effectiveness of programs and services for senior Trust Beneficiaries and other older Alaskans to see if these grant programs are really doing something

to improve the quality of life for seniors and their caregivers. She continues talking about the importance of designing a survey that all grantees could use, asking the same questions to find out if the programs are doing what they are supposed to; actually serving more people and in the ways that they should be served. She states that there is an effort underway for an Alaska roadmap with Alzheimer's and related dementias. She continues that in this road map, which is still in development, will be performance measures that will help to gather and get information. She asks Mr. Herman to talk more about what is being done right.

MR. HERMAN states that all the Boards are becoming more and more capable of evaluating programming mainly because of the continuity with people being there for multiple years.

A discussion ensues.

CHAIR EASLEY calls a break.

(Break.)

CHAIR EASLEY calls the meeting back to order and moves to the focus area planning update. She recognizes Nancy Burke.

MS. BURKE begins with an outline of the presentation.

MS. HINSHAW states that she is Sherrie Hinshaw with the Division of Behavioral Health, and adds that her position is funded through the Housing Focus Area. She states that one part of the housing projects being worked on is related to data. She continues that they looked at how much supportive housing is happening in the state, where they are located, and who is being served. She adds that this was collaboration between DBH, SDS, and the Trust for the survey. and to look at where these units are located across the state. She states that it was sent out over Survey Monkey to about 112 organizations as well as HUD grantees that are getting housing funding. She continues that there was not a high response rate and sent it out through the Homeless Coalition's listserv, state and local coalitions, and then began calling providers individually for help. She states that the second part of the survey was 40 questions, which is too many. She continues that the survey needs to be shortened; but there seems to be a lack of consensus about definitions, supportive housing versus assisted housing versus assisted living, group homes. She adds that help is needed to establish some general understanding about the types of housing, licensed settings versus unlicensed settings, and look to SAMHSA definitions and best practices as to what the different settings are, and then help educate and put things into categories for the next survey. She states that the time line is to finish this one, do some data cleanup of the ballot responses, and then reach out to agencies that filled it out that might have filled it out more. She continues that the hope is to have it done by August and then look at the next steps on reorganizing the survey for the next round and work with the partners at the Alaska Coalition on Homelessness and Alaska Housing Finance Congress. She concludes her update on the supportive housing stock survey.

CHAIR EASLEY thanks Sherrie.

MS. DANIELLO asks if there will be any age information in this survey.

MS. HINSHAW replies that programs that were already in existence, populations they serve, transition-aged youth and seniors were asked about. She states that it will not tell about unmet needs or populations that are homeless, need housing, or need to be in a supportive housing program. She adds that it was to look at and measure existing supportive housing in the state.

MS. BURKE states that if there any other questions they can be highlighted at the May 9, 2014, meeting.

MS. LOFGREN moves to employment, stating that a contract was signed with the Institute of Community Inclusion to conduct a comprehensive review of the current policies in the existing employment system, do a data analysis, and conduct key informant interviews with many of the partners. She continues that the effort is led by Joe Marrone, an expert in substance abuse, behavioral health and employment, and John Butterworth, an expert around individuals with developmental disabilities. She states that one of the frameworks being used is called the high performing system framework and has several key areas. She continues that they are leadership, strategic goals, operating policies, financing and contracting efforts of collaboration and partnerships, services and service intervention and performance measure and data management. She adds that a small work group started meeting as a small collective group to discuss each of those seven components with the contractors to get a sense of what the current system is leading up to. She continues that there is a stakeholder meeting May 29 and 30 in Anchorage which will be the launching of the planning effort initiative in the fact of bringing many of the stakeholders together to review the seven components and the findings that Institute of Community Inclusion has done in the initial comprehensive analysis of the data, policies and procedures.

TRUSTEE WEBB asks for some written materials on the subject that he would like to review.

MS. LOFGREN states that she will put them together. She continues that Teresa and the Governor's Council did a lot of great work on the Employment First initiative, which passed. She thanks all for the hard work that was done on that.

CHAIR EASLEY asks for any questions. There being none, she moves on, recognizing Katie Baldwin-Johnson and Natasha Pineda.

MS. PINEDA begins the update of the happenings in the substance abuse focus areas. She states that, in collaboration with the Alaska 2020 collaborators, the strategies are being developed, along with the action and data to be used to track the indicators, which is around alcohol. She continues that the indicators are youth binge drinking, decreasing adult binge drinking, and decreasing alcohol-induced rate. She states that they are also committed to sponsoring the alcohol and substance abuse track for the 2013 Alaska Public Health Summit and have a draft overview of that track which will focus on the issues. She adds, that will be worked on until next January.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON moves on to an update on Recover Alaska. She states that the Recover Alaska planning partners met in April to focus on looking at various options for

possibly restructuring the initiative, where it can be housed, what is optimal in terms of creating the most neutral setup for the initiative rather than having it in-house within the Rasmuson Foundation. She continues that the funding partners are generally supportive of a model similar to the Foraker redevelopment where the funding partners provide the oversight and then key program officers from those organizations meet regularly and review the projects. She adds that a three-year budget is being looked at.

MS. PINEDA states that one of the strategies of Recover Alaska is the social norms change, positive social norms. She continues that they met with the funders group, Department of Health and Social Services, in their selection of a coalition coordinator and will continue to support and move that project forward.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON states that they have been engaged with the Alcohol Beverage Control Board's committee process. She continues that the committees have been meeting, formulated recommendations on the review and recommendations for the Title IV alcohol statutes. She adds, that led to having the full stakeholder meeting which is a broader group of folks that represent public health, alcohol industry, public safety, behavioral health and multiple other partners that are involved in the work. She continues that the recommendations presented on March 25 were well received, and the plan is to keep working those out until they are complete. She states that Carmen Gutierrez is on contract to take those recommendations and fit them in a rewrite of the statute. She continues that Agnew::Beck is continuing to work, at least through August, with the hope of having a product to bring through to the next legislative session.

CHAIR EASLEY asks for an example of one that is being worked on.

MS. BALDWIN-JOHNSON addresses the licensing subcommittee, explaining the process.

CHAIR EASLEY asks for anything else. There being none, she moves to the behavioral health systems assessment update.

MR. BALDWIN states that the Alaska Behavioral Health Systems Assessment contract was let out at the end of February, and the contractors are Agnew::Beck and their subcontractors, the Hornby Zeller & Associates. He continues that the first deliverable is the revised data analysis plan. He adds that one of the key steps forward on that was the question of whether the subcontractors were going to be able to get to the individual level data, and some progress has been made on that. He continues that the barriers and challenges are being worked out. He states that one of the key partners has been the tribal aspect of the study and the tribal health system. He adds that a lot of progress has been made, but there is still some hesitancy about accepting the partnership among the tribal health directors. He continues that a lot of work is being done to build the relationship. He states that there is a tribal health behavioral health directors meeting coming up in June that Jeff is a part of. He continues that they have asked if he would be a co-presenter on Behavioral Health to help sell it and answer questions. He adds that Laura Beez will be co-presenting. He states that there have been some advances within the Division of Behavioral Health, and are trying to figure out the best way to use the subcontractor's expertise in this process. He continues that one of the last pieces that came up in

the steering committee is the issue of data analysis versus data reporting. He adds that there are some issues in the data reporting piece that needs to be worked out within HIPAA and the Federal regulations around protecting health-care information. He concludes his report.

CHAIR EASLEY moves on to operationalizing program-related investments, and recognizes Nancy Burke.

MS. BURKE states that this is an ongoing piece of work. She continues that program-related investment is a way for foundations and organizations, like the Trust, to use principal resources in the form of a loan. She adds that the Trust is one of the few foundation-type organizations that also has assets and not just money. She states that the Trustees were feeling generally very supportive and have identified for the Trust to operationalize this. She continues, that includes writing it into the Asset Management Plan and moving forward with a test project. She states that it is not a very well accessed tool and is doing more research on what the other foundations are doing. She asks for any input on any projects that PRIs could be used for. She states that housing is the obvious one and is a useful tool and would probably be a simple thing to do. She asks the committee for a little additional time beyond the June agenda and to maybe float some project ideas to Trustees at that time.

A short discussion ensues on PRIs.

CHAIR EASLEY thanks Ms. Burke and recognizes Bill Herman.

MR. HERMAN moves on to the Comprehensive Review of the Mental Health Program, stating that it is a compilation of information talked about in the February 19 Planning Committee meeting. He continues that he took the first two bullets under that agenda item and revised them to reflect some of the work-session discussion. He adds that this is an opportunity to bring this out and talk to the executive directors of the four Boards to make them understand the intentions in moving forward. He states the intention to, by statute, collaborate with the Department of Health and Social Services on a Comprehensive Integrated Mental Health Plan, but without that collaboration, still move forward as a Planning Committee to do this comprehensive review. He continues, explaining as he goes along. He proposed stages of the analysis, beginning with analyzing the operating budgets and capital budgets predominantly operating to get the Beneficiary-related gist of what is going on with them. He moves on to Item 2, delving much deeper into recent budget changes, and then Item 3 in the historic lookback on the budget and program ideas, issues, and tapping into the institutional memory of current and past Trustees and staff; Item 4 is to interview executive directors from major provider agencies that have been in those positions long enough to see the long-term changes and trends; and, finally, use the statutory Boards' expertise. He continues his presentation.

A discussion ensues.

MR. BALDWIN suggests giving Duane Mays a call to try and connect in the process fairly quickly.

MR. HERMAN concludes his presentation and asks for an agenda item on June 25 for some feedback.

CHAIR EASLEY thanks all and moves to the name of this subject “Comprehensive Review of the Mental Health Program” and suggests changing it to “Comprehensive Mental Health Program Review.”

TRUSTEE WEBB states that it is a review and analysis, and at some point it will be a planning and action plan.

CHAIR EASLEY asks Mr. Baldwin about Board reporting at the Trust meetings.

MR. BALDWIN suggests holding off because there are still conversations and brainstorming needed.

CHAIR EASLEY asks about future Planning Committee dates.

MR. BALDWIN states that they are proposing June 25, August 6 and 7, and then October 22.

CHAIR EASLEY asks for any other information that needs to come before the committee. If not, she asks for a motion to adjourn.

TRUSTEE WEBB makes a motion to adjourn the Planning Committee.

There being no objection, the motion is approved.

(Planning Committee adjourned at 4:05 p.m.)