



STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

ROBERT GORDON
DIRECTOR

RECIPIENT RIGHTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

July 9, 2020
1:00 PM – 2:10 PM
via Zoom meeting

OPENING REMARKS

Jennifer Gorman

Call to Order 1:05 PM

- PRESENT: Roll call vote established that Recipient Rights Advisory Committee members Norm DeLisle, Liz O'Dell, Vendella Collins, Liz Healy, Tish Watson, Margaret Stooksberry and Jennifer Gorman were present. Also attending the meeting were Raymie Postema, Beverly Sobolewski, Andrew Silver, James Klingenberg and Julie Markham (recorder).
- ABSENT: Price Pullins, Basil Scott, Dr. Robert Lagrou and Shaun Thompson.

Approval of Agenda

- Roll call vote established that Norm DeLisle, Liz O'Dell, Vendella Collins, Liz Healy, Trish Watson, Margaret Stooksberry and Jennifer Gorman approved of the agenda. Norm DeLisle motioned to accept; Liz O'Dell seconded.

Approval of Meeting Minutes (January 2020)

- Roll call vote established Norm DeLisle, Liz O'Dell, Vendella Collins, Liz Healy, Margaret Stooksberry and Jennifer Gorman approved of the January 2020 meeting minutes. Liz O'Dell motioned to approve; Liz Healy seconded.

NEW BUSINESS

Invitation letter to Health Policy and Human Service representatives

- Letter to get final approval by Raymie and then sent out to representatives

Request for representative joining committee

- Of the required 12 RRAC members, it appears we are missing representation in governmental official and attorney for the committee. Review Process: new applications will be reviewed by Raymie and recommendations for submission to Director Gordon will be forwarded to the Committee for review before going to Director Gordon for approval.

RRAC member applications.

- One application received from consumer. A denial letter was sent based on the specific composition needs of the committee.
- The second application is to be reviewed by the committee. If agreed upon, recommendation would go to Director Gordon for approval. Liz O'Dell would like to get a copy of the letter and would like summary of board representation. This information was provided at the last RRAC meeting. Discussion ensued.

Basil Scott's attendance

- Basil has retired. A letter of thanks will be created and sent to him.

MHC revisions

- Discussion ensued about Committee reviewing the Mental Health Code (MHC) to identify areas that may need updating or revisions. Members to review Chapter 7 only, will start with the MHC and if there are Administrative Rules that attach to the Regulations, they can be reviewed later.
- Suggestion was made to create subcommittee to take section by section. Raymie stated she would work with subcommittee. Norm DeLisle would like to be on subcommittee as well as Liz O'Dell; Tish Watson and Liz Healy. Dr. Lagrou will be invited to the subcommittee since it was his idea originally. Members will individually send Jennifer an email listing items in the code they are

interested in reviewing, and a decision regarding the members of the subcommittee will be made at that time.

ORR UPDATES AND REPORTS

Raymie Postema

- Last meeting minutes covered a lot of things. State facilities –Various updates from the hospital directors; rights staff working mostly remotely (gather complaints from facility grievance coordinator/Risk Management contact; able to do interviews by phone, Teams or Zoom. If patient unwilling to talk on phone, will talk face-to-face.)
- Telemed in several facilities.
- Patients with covid. No cases at Caro, KPH, Hawthorne, but 18 cases at CFP and hotspot WRPB (much higher than other facilities). WRPB staff numbers are higher. Quarantine units are available.
- Direct contracts to discharge patients. If state does sign direct provider contracts, ORR has to provide direct rights coverage. Dr Mellos is working with money appropriated to address alternatives to state hospitals stays.

LARA Memo of Understanding (MOU)

- MOU to Larry Horvath to take to his supervisor.

Behavioral Health Transformation.

- Recently on hold; no longer looking at the SIP's which were specialty inpatient programs. PIHP system will be held intact, if not modified. Alan Jansen is getting information together.

Discrimination policy

- Currently being worked on.

Annual report

- Report has been sent out.

Change office building name

- Lewis-Cass is now named Elliott-Larsen. Waiting on guidance for transition.

OAG

- Have not heard anything regarding ORR's audit. Visit was scheduled for August 2020.

Director of Hospital and Community Investigation Unit

- Congratulations to Jim Klingenberg on his new position as Director of Hospital and Community Investigations. Official June 29, 2020.

Budget

- Position vacancies are only filled with approved exceptions. There is a hiring freeze in place for MDHHS positions.
- State has to reduce budget by \$400,000,000 across state government to include hiring freezes; layoffs and holding positions open. State employees will be on a one day a week furlough through July 25th. Exception request to fill Raymie's past position was approved (which Jim has filled.) Exception request to fill Jim's old position is being reviewed by DTMB. Telecommuting will be looked at differently in the future.

Telehealth

- Telehealth was added by new legislation. There is ongoing discussion regarding use of telehealth in providing behavioral health services, when telehealth is appropriate and when it is not and who determines that.

ETU UNIT

Andy Silver

- ORR has turned virtual in every aspect. Assessments done virtually (some CMHs gave access to medical record systems or scan cases and send to auditors). Process has gone pretty smoothly.
- Basic Skills was interesting to do online. Large class in April/May that had to be split in two. Four weeks straight doing Basics I and Basics II. Worked out okay. Building Blocks training will be virtual as well.
- Conference will also be virtual. CMHA has been looking at platforms for the conference and has settled on one; not just a Zoom meeting; this platform has many more visual aspects to it. Can open conference up to more people and can bring in more speakers across the country. Conference begins September 15th with 4 sessions AM and PM, T, W, Th, F. There will be no precon; will save that for next year. More details in coming weeks. ETU report.

OLD BUSINESS

Jennifer Gorman

Contacting BHDD Leadership to talk about relationship with ORR.

- Good idea. Invite one person to every meeting. Start with Dr Mellos or Al Jansen. Opportunity to tell us what they are working on. Raymie and Jennifer will put out invites with meeting dates.

Committee membership, membership role, recruitment, and how to process applications.

- Process talked about. Looked at Diane Baker's application. Discussion ensued. Good candidate to fit attorney with rights background. Nominated by Liz O'Dell. Liz Healy seconded. Will put letter together to go to Director Gordon.

New application or RRAC membership training.

- For newer members. Bev and Andy have worked on RRAC training. If new members have not attended the training, it would be beneficial. Bev will be offering it during conference. Basic Skills is also available for a broader training in rights. Norm would be interested.
- Mediation bill into effect in March 2020. State has not yet completed contract with mediation organization. Start date anticipated October 1, 2020. Current bid out for one or more mediation organizations. An advisory group is working on what is needed for training, notification, etc.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Committee

None

Public Comment – see attached

- Mr. Sean Bennett is a civil rights and mental health advocate. Mr. Bennett is not on the Zoom meeting line at this time. Jennifer spent a good amount of time with Mr. Bennett on the phone. Jennifer informed Mr. Bennett that not every organization or hospital has the same kind of issues inside their doors. Majority of patients are voluntary patients, however, there is more concern with state facilities. He did want to put his issue in front of the committee. Mr. Bennett was encouraged to reach out to this state representatives. ORR is aware of situations where medication may be being overused or in place of other treatment modalities.
- Raymie suggested we could share his letter with Dr. Mellos and Al Jansen as heads of Behavioral Health, and Dr. Pinal, as a shared public document. Director Gordon will also be copied.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Invitation to RRAC meeting to be sent to Al Jansen for next meeting and then Dr. Mellos for meeting following that.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 2:10 pm. Margaret Stooksberry motioned for adjournment and Norm DeLisle seconded.

Anyone interested in serving on the RRAC committee please fill out an application and have returned to Julie Markham at MarkhamJ@Michigan.gov as soon as possible.

Anyone interested in serving on the Appeals Committee please fill out an application and have returned to Kimberly Saterlee-Fink at SaterleeK@Michigan.gov as soon as possible.

FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND VIA CONFERENCE CALL, PLEASE DIAL

1-877-873-8018, ACCESS CODE 5062210