

S. C. MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING
SCDMH Administration
2414 Bull Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201
January 12, 2018

CALL TO ORDER

The January 5, 2018 meeting of the South Carolina Mental Health Commission was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by Dr. Alison Evans, Chairperson, in Conference Room 320 at the SC Department of Mental Health Administration Building, 2414 Bull Street, Columbia, SC. Mr. Stewart Cooner provided the invocation.

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS

Dr. Evans welcomed Thornwell Simmons from Protection and Advocacy for People with Disabilities and the students from The South Carolina Governor's School for Science and Mathematics. Each student stated his/her name and the location of residence.

RECOGNITION OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE

Commissioner Buxton (Buck) Terry was recognized for his service that began in 2006. Mr. Terry was presented with a Resolution that was signed by Dr. Alison Evans, Chair and SCDMH State Director, John Magill and a gift from the Commission Members. Commissioner Terry was instrumental in ensuring that funds from the Bull Street property sales are used for patient housing needs.

APPROVAL OF REVISED AGENDA

On a motion by Mr. Buck Terry, seconded by Ms. Beverly Cardwell, the Commission approved the Revised Agenda for today's Business Meeting.

All voted in favor to the above motions; all motions carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Ms. Beverly Cardwell, seconded by Mr. Bob Hiott, the Commission approved the minutes from the Center Presentation of December 8, 2017.

On a motion by Ms. Beverly Cardwell, seconded by Mr. Bob Hiott, the Commission approved the Minutes from the Business Meeting of December 8, 2017.

All voted in favor to the above motions; all motions carried.

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MONTHLY/QUARTERLY INFORMATION REPORTS

Mr. Mark Binkley presented the items listed under Monthly/Quarterly Informational Reports, copies of which had been provided to the Commission.

DEPARTMENTAL OVERVIEW AND UPDATE

Forensic Waiting List Update

Mr. Alan Powell stated that the Forensic waiting list has decreased to approximately twenty (20), a number of whom are out on bond. Ms. Versie Bellamy stated that between January, 2017 and December, 2017, over three hundred (300) patients were admitted to the forensic units. She stated that there has been a steady increase of admissions and that the Agency's goals are being met. Ms. Bellamy reported that the waiting list has decreased by eighty-two percent (82%) in the last nineteen (19) months.

Bull Street Update

Mr. Mark Binkley reported that there were ten (10) parcel sales in the month of December and SCDMH has surpassed the halfway point in terms of the amount of acreage sold. He stated that ninety-eight (98) acres of the one hundred eighty-one (181) have been transferred and that approximately \$ 13M in proceeds has been received.

Youth Suicide Prevention Program Update

Dr. Alex Karydi gave a presentation of the Youth Suicide Prevention Program, which is funded by the Garret Lee Smith Memorial Act Grant. She stated that suicide is the second leading cause of death in ages ten (10) to twenty-four (24) in South Carolina and the United States. She stated that a large number of suicide victims have had no prior attempts and have not been involved with the mental health care system. The Youth Suicide Prevention Program is now present in twenty-four (24) school districts across South Carolina. In 2017, one hundred fifty thousand (150,000) individuals were exposed to suicide awareness through the program. Over six thousand (6,000) individuals have received training in prevention or mental health promotion and there are currently sixty (60) organizations/communities that have demonstrated readiness to change their systems.

Financial Status Update

Mr. Dave Schaefer highlighted certain information on the SCDMH Financial Report, dated November 30, 2017, copies of which had been provided to the Commission. He stated that the Agency is projected to finish this fiscal year with a balanced budget.

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Introduction of New Deputy Director, Deborah Blalock

Dr. Evans welcomed Ms. Deborah Blalock as the new Deputy Director of Community Mental Health Services. Mr. Magill stated that Ms. Blalock was previously the Executive Director of the Charleston-Dorchester Mental Health Center. Ms. Blalock expressed her excitement in assuming her new position and for the opportunities for outpatient facilities and integrating with the inpatient side. She stated that a new EMS telemental health program, which started in May, 2017 with the Charleston County EMS, has won a national award. The program allows EMS to telepsych with the Center's mobile crisis unit, twenty-four (24) hours, seven (7) days per week for patients that do not require any emergency department care. She stated that the assessment is completed in approximately twenty (20) minutes and approximately eighty-nine percent (89%) of patients no longer go to the ER. Ms. Blalock stated that this process is used by Charleston EMS approximately sixty-four (64) times each month.

Report of the Inpatient Facilities Governing Body Meeting of October 11, 2017

Ms. Versie Bellamy presented the Inpatient Facilities Governing Body Meeting minutes from the October 11, 2017 meeting, copies of which had been provided to the Commission.

On a motion by Ms. Beverly Cardwell, seconded by Mr. Bob Hiott, the Commission approved the Governing Body Meeting minutes from the October 11, 2017 meeting. Commissioner Louise Haynes abstained from voting on the approval of the Facilities Governing Body Meeting minutes. (Copies were distributed at the meeting and Commission Haynes joined via phone)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Magill stated that he will presenting at some conferences during the next six (6) months. Mr. Stewart Cooner stated that a two (2) year contract has been signed with the S. C. Telehealth Alliance. Mr. Magill stated that SCDMH is a new specialty hub for the Alliance, and that the contract is for approximately \$ 6M. Dr. Evans stated that Commissioner Beverly Cardwell will be relocating and resigning her position at the March, 2018 Commission Meeting. Dr. Evans reminded Commissioners that the deadline for filing their State Ethics Reports is March 30, 2018.

NOTICE/AGENDA

A notice and agenda of the meeting were sent out to all individuals and news media who requested information, in accordance with State law.

ADJOURNMENT

At 11:43 a.m., on a motion by Ms. Beverly Cardwell, seconded by Mr. Buck Terry, the Commission adjourned.

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ATTENDANCE

Commission Members

Dr. Alison Evans, Chair
Buck Terry
Beverly Cardwell
Bob Hiott

Sharon Wilson, Vice-Chair
(via phone)
Louise Haynes (via phone)

Visitors/Staff

John Magill
Versie Bellamy
Mark Binkley
Stewart Cooner
Dr. Robert Bank
Dr. Kimberly Rudd
Val Perkins
Melba Arthur

Dr. Alex Karydi
Alan Powell
Deborah Blalock
Samantha Brinson
Zeanmauj Rames
Blake Seekings
Thornwell Simmons
Nina Krasnoff

Abbi Fralick
Morie Sanyeng
Maya Brown
Will Rumfelt
Thien-An Bui
Ancus Lawson
Josnel H. Faiivae

APPROVALS



**Alison Y. Evans
PsyD, Chair**



**Terry Davis
Recording Secretary**