



United Way of Broward County Commission on Substance Abuse
“To Empower Our Diverse Community to Live Healthy and Drug-Free”

Board of Governors Monthly Meeting

United Way of Broward County - Ansin Building Board Room

Thursday, January 14, 2016

Minutes

Chair: Cynthia Peterson

Present: David Choate, Cassandra Evans, Anita Fain Taylor, Paul Faulk, Stephen Ferrante, Jim Hall, Joel Kaufman, Mark Ketcham, Judge Ginger Lerner Wren, Jeff Marcus, Charles Morton, Shawn Oden, Ralph Page, Cynthia Peterson, Renée Podolsky, Gisele Pollack, Jose Rada, Sanford Silverman, Rosemarie Stadelman, Norma Wagner.

Absent: Catherine Baez Sholl, Daniel Castellanos, Marsha Currant, Paul Daly, Stephen Ferrante, David Freedman, Monica King, Carlton Mills, Rudy Morel, Rosalind Osgood, David Pinsker, Carmen Puentes-Croye, David Scharf, Richard Seely, Teri Stockham, Karlene Tomlinson, Tammy Tucker.

UWBC Staff: Elkin Alfred, Gonzalo Cadima, Heather Davidson, David Fields, Maria Hernandez, Alicia Hockey, Madeline Jones, Kevin O’Mara, Lois Simpson, Angela Ventura, Dave Wallace.

Guests: Don Maines, Marielle Sologuren, Atticus Ranck.

Welcome & Introductions: *Cynthia Peterson, Chair

- Mrs. Peterson called the meeting to order at 7:51 a.m.
- Mrs. Peterson requested each individual introduce themselves.
- Mrs. Peterson motioned to approve the December minutes. Stephen Ferrante motioned and Tammy Tucker seconded the motion. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.

VP Report: *Maria Hernandez, Vice President of Program Operations, UWBC

Ms. Hernandez reminded the Board about this year’s Behavioral Health Conference being held on May 10th & 11th, 2016 at the Signature Grand. She advised the Save the Date and Request for Proposal Form was in this month’s agenda packet as well. A board member requested both be sent via email again. Ms. Hernandez also gave a brief overview of the different tracks and training that will be presented this year. In closing, she announced the Commission’s nomination (Paul Daly) for the 2-1-1 Broward Non-Profit Academy Awards being held this evening.

Director Report: *Gonzalo Cadima, Director, UWBCCSA

Mr. Cadima advised the Board on upcoming Commission events; i.e., Stand Out When You Stand Up, NIDA Fact Week, Alternative Spring Break and BYC Youth Leadership Institute at NSU. He announced the Commission’s partnership with the Jason Taylor Foundation was in the finalization phase. Mr. Cadima further explained this partnership is in affiliation with the Omari Hardwick Blueapple Poetry Network and Google Adwords.



He encouraged Board members to participate, collaborate or sponsor the various events and advised he would email the Commission Events Calendar with specific dates and details for each mentioned.

Mr. Cadima closed with information pertaining to the development of a proposal for prescription drugs through CADCA that would allow the purchase of materials, media and possibly the reproduction of toolkits.

Presentation: *Atticus Ranck, Director of Transgender Services, SunServe

Mr. Ranck introduced himself and provided the board with a brief personal background and that of the Transgender Services available at SunServe. He then gave a PowerPoint presentation with data and statistics based on his case management since coming on board in September 2015. The focal point towards the end of the discussion addressed the major transgender areas of concern in Broward County and how they are being addressed by SunServe. Mr. Ranck closed with Q&A.

Flakka Action Team: *Paul Faulk, Co-Chair

Mr. Faulk directed Board members to the Broward Briefings handout in the Agenda packet. He pointed out that the numbers continue to decline with only 23 Admissions went into detox in December 2015. He reminded the Board that the numbers peaked at 50 just a few months prior. Mr. Faulk stated he believes the decrease is in direct correlation with all the information that is out in the community and due to BSO, UW, Broward Health and the County all working together. He closed with statements from patients and BARC staff in regards to the confirmation of the drastic turnaround.

Surveillance Support Committee: *Jim Hall, Co-Chair

Mr. Hall also directed Board members to the Broward Briefings handout in the Agenda packet. He advised that Broward Health's numbers correspond with those of BARC. Hospital emergency department cases have decreased from approximately 12 per day in July 2015 to 2 per day in December 2015. From June 1, 2015 to December 27, 2015 there were 1,872 Flakka related cases at Broward Health Medical Centers alone. Mr. Hall noted, the significant decrease occurred after October 1, 2015, which is the date China banned Alpha-PVP and 115 other synthetic drugs. He closed with a short summary of the Broward Grand Jury Recommendations from The Synthetic Drug Investigation Report. The Board then had a discussion regarding the 16 Recommendations, how they will be implemented and how they may impact the community and the education system.

Advocacy Action Team: *Dr. Joel Kaufman, Co-Chair

Dr. Kaufman briefly discussed the pilot program for syringe exchange that is again circulating in legislation for the fourth year in a row. He stated there is high hopes this year for the bill to pass. It is currently moving along and is up for review again on January 21, 2016 and he stated he would keep the Board informed of its progress. Dr. Kaufman mentioned national news of a drug to cure Hepatitis C is currently available in India for \$4.00 a pill; however, it would cost over \$94,000.00 to receive the 12 week course of drugs in the United States. He also advised the new Intravenous Drug Safety Guides will be printed and distributed shortly. Dr. Kaufman closed with the announcement of the Coalition being chosen to present at CADCA for Capitol Hill Day.

Mental Health Promotion Action Team: *Catherine Baez Sholl, Co-Chair

Mrs. Baez Sholl advised the first meeting would be held on February 15th, 2016 at UWBC. She also mentioned the Action Team already has data compiled for strategy purposes that would be discussed. Mrs. Baez Sholl closed with an invitation for other Boards members and their staff to participate.



Other Business

Mrs. Peterson asked if there was any further business to discuss. Mr. Scharf stated there was and asked Ms. Wagner to inform the Board on the current status of County mental health dollars that were applied for through DCF. Ms. Wagner advised there was an executive order through the Governor that included three different areas of focus. She explained the one directed related to BSO was for the transition of inmates coming out of prison to assist in the successful reentry into the community. It was noted that Broward County was indicated as the area with the highest number of returning inmates; regardless, of area of origination. It was also earmarked in the Order that Broward County was the primary area needing behavioral health assistance. Ms. Wagner further indicated the State issued an RFP for Central Receiving Facilities that allowed communities to apply. She advised Broward was 1 of 6 that applied, distribution was based on a score and Broward was awarded the least amount, approximately \$1,000,000.00 out of the \$28,000,000.00 available. Currently, there is a protest and the process has stopped. Ms. Peterson posed the question, "Why was the score so low?" Ms. Wagner stated, to her understanding, the application was submitted by Broward Health Medical Centers on behalf of BSO; however, for some reason did not include children. Mr. Scharf expressed his outrage and requested the Board become involved. The Board discussed briefly what actions should be taken and it was agreed that talks would start with Dr. Nabil El Sanadi. Ms. Peterson volunteered to speak with him at her earliest convenience and to add it as an action item.

Action Items:

- ✚ Maria Hernandez to resend Save the Date and Proposal Request Form via email to Board members for the 2016 Broward Behavioral Health Conference.
- ✚ Gonzalo Cadima to email Board members the Commission's Events Calendar.
- ✚ Cynthia Peterson to reach out to Dr. Nabil El Sanadi of Broward Health in regards to the Governor's Executive Order/Grant protest.

Closing & Adjournment: Cynthia Peterson, Chair

- Mrs. Peterson advised the next meeting is February 11, 2016.
- Mrs. Peterson thanked everyone for their time and adjourned the meeting at 9:17 a.m.