

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
Minutes of Meeting
June 2, 2009
Kenosha County Administration Building

Committee Members Present: Ed Kubicki, Terry Rose, Jeff Gentz, Dick Kessler, Jennifer Jackson, Alice Wei, Ali Khaleel

Staff Present: John Jansen, Adelene Greene, John Milisaukas, Tom Buening

Others Present: Mary Jonker, Joe Potente (Kenosha News), Jack Waters

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Ed Kubicki.

2. Citizen's Comments

Jack Waters, Executive Director of the Kenosha Community Health Center (KCHC), stated that he wanted to follow up on the May presentation of the Medicaid Navigator Program that distributes pregnant women evenly across the community. There was a question of pediatrician access. The KCHC has hired a full-time pediatrician who will start in July. We have also expanded our medical staff and will have a total of 3 physicians and 4 mid-level providers to see patients at our 22nd Avenue center. Nellie Musignac is aware of our services, including the pediatrician. This is also a place for babies to receive care.

We also expanded our dental practice at 63rd Street and 14th Avenue. The number of employees has tripled from 5 to 15. Our patients have also tripled from 600 last year to 2,000 in March, 2009 and 1,900 in April, 2009. We expect to have a total of about 30,000 dental visits this year. We will be adding 7 new dentists between June and September, for a total of 10 dentists and 4 full-time hygienists.

There are 25,000 eligible Medicaid members in Kenosha County. We only service 8,000 - 9,000 of the people. We need to continue to expand.

We have averted a disastrous situation in this community. This Committee did a great thing by helping to bring a Navigator to Kenosha.

3. Approval of Minutes - 5/5/09, 5/19/09

MOTION to approve minutes by Jeff Gentz, seconded by Terry Rose. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. Report on Workforce Development Board

John Milisaukas stated that, at the request of this Committee, the attendance record of the WDB members from 2007, 2008, and 2009 is being provided. There has only been one meeting held in 2009. Terry Rose questioned the attendance of Tim Mahone, missing the only 2009 meeting, making 1 of 4 meetings in 2008, and 2 of 4 in 2007. Mr. Milisaukas explained that Mr. Mahone works with the Governor's Office and was involved in the election. All members of this Board are appointed by the County Executive.

5. Informational Item: Child Support Stimulus Money

Adelene Greene stated that we will be receiving additional Child Support funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (stimulus money) in the amount of \$307,000 for this year, and the same amount for next year. It is available now but is being held up in the Governor's budget. We should receive it in about 2 weeks. This funding is time limited; it needs to be spent by 9/30/2010. There are also limitations as to how the money can be used. It can be used for enhanced services, so we will probably hire additional staff that will be time limited. We will bring our full plan in a resolution to this Committee when we receive the money.

6. Informational Item: Human Services Board Operating Policies

John Jansen said that in April there were several questions about all of the different committees and boards overseeing DHS. The Human Services Board has 2 standing committees - the Public Welfare Committee and the MH/AODA Committee, which just had 4 vacancies filled. There are still 2 vacancies, including a County Board Supervisor. There are also several other oversight committees.

7. Informational Item: Purpose & Authority of DHS Oversight Committees

John Jansen stated that these are the bylaws, responsibilities, and purposes of the various DHS oversight committees. Mr. Jansen also distributed a listing of all oversight committee meeting dates, times and locations, commenting that everyone is welcome to attend these open meetings, and invited the committee members to try to attend some of these meetings.

8. Informational Item: Other Committee Minutes

Aging, 2/9/09
ADRC Board, 2/19/09
Brookside, 3/2/09
Health, 2/9/09
Human Services Board, 1/28/09, 2/25/09
MH/AODA Services, 2/18/09
Public Welfare, 2/12/09, 3/12/09

John Jansen commented that these are the minutes from the last meetings held by some of our oversight committees. We can continue this practice of including them in your packets, if you would like us to. Jennifer Jackson requested that they be e-mailed to all committee members to save paper costs. All members agreed.

Mr. Jansen said that we will continue to bring various presentations to future meetings.

9. Such Other Business as Authorized by Law

Mr. Jansen informed the members that CPE funding for county nursing homes, including Brookside, was restored by the State. This is good news.

10. Committee Members Comments - None

Jennifer Jackson stated that we need to let our legislators know of our objections to the funding cuts for inpatient mental health admissions at Mendota and Winnebago. The cost is about \$800 per day. The State had been paying for this, but they have taken it out of the upcoming budget. The additional cost to Kenosha County will be about \$680,000 based on last year's numbers. We are getting less and less shared revenue. We have no choice in

these inpatient admissions. We can't tell the taxpayers that we will not deal with mentally ill patients. Leaving the mentally ill off the table is totally unacceptable.

Mr. Jansen informed the committee that DHS has been working with Peter Barca's office for a compromise on this, so the impact could be much less if this happens. We are proposing a 15-day assessment period that the State will cover. Other counties are in the same situation as Kenosha. Most of the mental health admissions are not long-term, but there will always be some that need to be institutionalized. We do have the KARE Center in Kenosha.

Terry Rose suggested that we talk to our judges. Mr. Jansen agreed, and said he will also talk to Corp Counsel and look at the impact on juveniles.

Jeff Gantz commented that the problem is not just funding cuts to the mentally ill. It's the State shutting off funding for mandates to the counties. It is not acceptable to have unfunded mandates. He asked that Mr. Jansen keep the committee informed of the conversations with Peter Barca. Mr. Jansen said it will be a tough budget for human services. He will call all committee members when he receives a decision.

Ed Kubicki suggested drafting a letter from the Human Services Committee to our representatives, stating that we want the mental health admissions included in the budget. The Committee agreed to wait 7 days for a decision, after which the letter will be sent. Mr. Kubicki stated that he will also make phone calls personally.

11. Adjournment

It was moved to adjourn by Jeff Gantz, seconded by Jennifer Jackson. Meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Davis
KCDHS Secretary

F:Sharon/HSCmin 6-2-09