

NORTHERN LAKES COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH

CONSUMER ADVOCACY COUNCIL MINUTES

DATE: February 9, 2011
TIME: 1:30 p.m.
PLACE: Northern Lakes Community Mental Health
(105 Hall Street, Traverse City)

PRESENT: GP, DL, CP, JN, KS, FT with aide, and PJ.

The meeting was called to order at 1:48 p.m.

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

KS welcomed those in attendance.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT/ADVOCACY STORIES

- JN provided an update on her neighbor identifying that she was able to get a handicapped apartment.
- JN suggested having an agenda item where people could identify books or movies to recommend to others. Greg clarified that this would be included as a standing item on the agenda after old business—Current Literature, Articles and Movies.
Books – Lincolns Melancholy - How Depression Challenged A President and Fueled His Greatness.
Movies – The King Speech; Extreme Measures; Proof; The Black Swan; The Lost Prince.
- JN referenced Susan Odgers on Up North Live speaking about computer dating.
- KS related a story she had heard recently about a “special child” and it appears there is more stigma and being related to a health problem. Stigma is being accepted more readily.
- Cindy reported that she is working with the State Theatre to show Temple Grandlin. Working with the Autism parent group from Traverse City.
- PJ has mentioned in the local church bulletin to ask for thanksgiving for recovery from a brain disorder and people are very accepting.

Change to agenda – Lynn Ross will not be attending today and will attend in April. Added report from drop-in centers or clubhouses. Add Access to Protection and Advocacy. Noted Rob Hentschel, Grand Traverse County Commissioner who has been appointed to the NLCMH Board, was invited to attend and cannot attend meetings on Wednesday. Add to the agenda discussion from FT regarding advocating.

III. ACCEPT MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 12, 2011

FT made the motion, supported by JN to accept the minutes of January 12, 2011.

IV. GENERAL DISCUSSION

KS identified that Lynn Ross has agreed to talk about Medicare at the April 13 meeting. Schedule March 9 for a presentation by Protection and Advocacy. Greg identified that JM agreed to do a presentation or update on Kandu Island for the March 9 meeting. Greg identified that he would inquire as to whether Club Cadillac could do a report on May 11 as the meeting will be held in Cadillac. Noted this would conflict with the Walk A Mile Rally on May 11.

A written report from Traverse House was distributed. Greg reported that Kurt Klein will be leaving and has taken a position with the NLCMH Mental Health Court Pilot. We are in the process of recruiting for Kurt's position. There is reference to Roy's General Store in the report that there may be a possibility of a TE placement. Greg reviewed the monthly overview, attendance, and slots for Transitional Employment and Supported Employment. Identified the purpose of a clubhouse program, the difference between drop-in and clubhouses and programs that are available through Northern Lakes. Greg provided an update on the Director of New Beginnings (Drop-In program in Roscommon County) who last year was seriously hurt in an accident.

Advocating - FT provided a scenario of completing a form at a bank for a loan, hadn't heard anything for four months and then received a paper in the mail asking him to sign it. It was not the same form as the old form. They identified they lost the paperwork that was signed. FT identified he had a PCP completed four months ago and received a new PCP asking him to sign because they had misplaced. However it is nothing like the one completed four months previously. There were additions and items left out. There

were units identified for each of his goals and became part of his PCP. There were errors in calculating those units. It was proposed that he would have an aide once a day, 15 minutes once a week. If FT had signed they could have reduced his services. It was noted that the excuse has been that the signature page has been lost. It was identified that FT asked for a new caseworker and are hoping that this will help the situation.

Greg identified that we are required to put amount, scope and duration in the PCP (individual plan of service). He was not aware of this until today so isn't sure how the units were identified. He noted that we have an electronic record and not sure why the case manager wouldn't have printed and had you sign the old plan. The intent is to do on a timely basis every year. The PCP had been accomplished four months previously. Greg noted that the starting point should be the one agreed to four months ago and should have seen in writing. It was noted that the plan was drafted but not finalized. There was discussion as to what can be included in the PCP. A meeting was scheduled with the new case worker on February 11. It was identified that Dave Branding made the budget work. These types of issues affects his physical abilities and his ability to eat. Related conversation with his previous case worker. Greg identified that Dave can still be used a resource. The budget has already been approved and will not need to be completed again. Concern about whether the same types of issues are occurring with others.

V. NEW MEMBER APPLICATION/INTRODUCTION

Greg noted that the candidate was to attend in TC today, but something must have come up to prevent. We will encourage her to attend the next meeting.

VI. CAC ASSESSMENT

Not discussed.

VII. TC HOUSING COMMISSION VOUCHERS/MI CHOICE WAIVER

Greg reported that at the last meeting FT brought up about the funding approved for the TC Housing Commission. Greg distributed the press release for the HUD funding and the advertisement in the newspaper. The dollars were awarded through the Traverse City Housing Commission for 10 vouchers in the amount of \$56,714. The vouchers are specific for transition out of nursing homes for people that do not have housing to go to. We can access them with appropriate referrals and applicants must live within 60 miles of Traverse City. The money was not for administrative purposes. There was no time limit identified to use the dollars.

KS asked whether there would be additional peer support positions hired. Greg noted that we are recruiting the vacant peer support positions currently. Greg thought there were 30 hours total.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

Update on Budget – not discussed.

Freedom to Work Amendment – not discussed.

RCF Meeting – not discussed.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

NMC Survey – distributed one page summary.

Mini Grant Application - distributed flyer, application and the press release. The purpose is to help promote ideas for recovery. The CAC may be interested in doing something as a group. Joanie Blamer is the contact person. There is only \$10,000 available and the maximum amount you can apply for is \$2,000. Anyone from the community could make a request as long as they have a mental illness. A member expressed an interest in having an exercise class and another member identified that his wife may possibly be interested in having a knitting and crocheting class. Applications are due March 15 and decisions are made on April 1. Reports will be due in July, September and October. Would be part of the recovery celebration. Members will need to discuss prior to the next meeting whether to submit an application.

Walk Rally – handout was distributed. Greg noted that we try to support as many people to attend as we can assist with transportation. There will be representatives from the 83 counties and we are looking for people to be a flag bearer and a presenter from each of our six counties. We would also provide transportation.

Training on Advocacy – Talking with your legislators and training on advocacy is scheduled on April 27 from 10 to 3 in Ludington at the Art Center.

X. AGENDA PLANNING

The next meeting is scheduled for March 9, 2011: Protection and Advocacy and report from Kandu Island.

XI. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

XII. MEETING EVALUATION/ADJOURN

None.

The meeting adjourned at 3:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra Lavender, Recording Secretary