



**The Guilford Center
Board Meeting Minutes
201 N. Eugene Street
Greensboro, NC
February 12, 2008**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: George Coates, Paula Cox-Fishman, Bert Davis, Jr., Paul Gibson, W. A. Goodson, John Hemphill, Linda Myers, Ray Pyscher, Sheron Sumner and Dianne Walton-Munden

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Marshall Abee, Margaret Arbuckle, Mildred Hoffler-Foushee, Jane Perrin, David Talbot and Bill Tankersley

STAFF PRESENT: Dena Bailey, Glenna Harford, Steve Hess, Billie Pierce and Tana Wirtz

I. CALL TO ORDER AND MOMENT OF SILENCE **Ray Pyscher**
The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. and a moment of silence was observed.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS **Ray Pyscher**
Board members were reminded to mark their calendars for the May 13, 2008 Board Retreat at Magnolia Manor.

III. SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR
There were no speakers from the floor.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 8, 2008 Meeting **Ray Pyscher**
Upon a motion by Sheron Sumner and a second from Paul Gibson, the January 8, 2008 Board minutes were unanimously approved as distributed in the Board packet.

V. BRIDGEWAY STAFF PRESENTATION **Steve Klasek
and Jill Kwasniewski**

Bridgeway Behavioral Health is a thirty year-old, non-profit organization based in St. Charles, Missouri and the chosen vendor for the Wendover Avenue substance abuse facility. Steve Klasek, Vice President of Finance and Jill Kwasniewski, Vice President of Human Resources spoke to the Board about Bridgeway's background, philosophies and vision for the new substance abuse facility. Bridgeway believes in making quality care affordable and accessible to as many people as possible. Treatment programs are very individualized. They do not subscribe to a one size fits all approach. There will be one senior management member (or more) on site at least initially in order to help ensure that the Bridgeway culture grows in this facility. The hiring process continues with a Site Director, Business Operations Coordinator, Clinical Supervisor, two LCA'S, a Substance Abuse Counselor, Kitchen Manager and an IT Specialist all on board. A question and answer session followed the presentation.

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. LOC STAFF VISIT

Billie Pierce

The Legislative Oversight Committee ("LOC"), which includes Senator Martin Nesbitt and Representative Verla Insko, is the legislative committee that has overseen reform since its inception in 2001. Four staff members to the LOC visited the Guilford Center today. These are key staff members who work directly with the legislators, chairs, finance committees, and Governor's Office. Our Management Team, along with the County Manager and Deputy County Manager had a "meet and greet" with the LOC staff. The group was then given a tour of the Edgeworth Building and Bellemeade Center, allowing them a chance to meet and ask questions of employees from various departments along the way. They were very engaged, asked good questions, and solicited our opinion on a variety of issues. We provided them with our Management Team list and contact information so we may serve as a resource for them in the future.

Ms. Pierce reported on several other important meetings. On February 1, 2008 Billie and Glenna Harford attended the LME Advisory Group ("LAG") meeting in Raleigh. This is a group of seven LME's chosen to advise DMA and the Division on various issues. On February 4, 2008, Billie attended the Secretary's Advisory Group ("SAG") meeting. This meeting is attended by a select few LME Directors to give advice and feedback and bounce ideas off of each other. The meeting is chaired by Secretary Benton.

As you will recall, at the direction of the Governor, The Division of MH/DD/SAS contracted with Mercer Government Human Services Consulting (Mercer) to conduct independent evaluations of all North Carolina LMEs. The specific purpose for these evaluations (audits) is to reduce the number of LMEs in the State. The Guilford Center's on-site audit was held on January 8, 2008. Mercer has completed its evaluations and will provide their report to Secretary Benton by the middle of March. The Directors from Guilford, Mecklenburg and Smoky will meet with Secretary Benton on March 19th to discuss what, if any, impact the Mercer report will have on our Partnership.

B. NC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

Billie Pierce

Another two-day Partnership meeting will be held at the Guilford Center on February 13th and 14th. Partnership members have spent the last two months outlining all of the work processes for every function of the LME. This week's meeting will focus on testing the NetSmart Avatar IT System to be sure that it can do everything we need it to do. The Partnership will include 17 counties and approximately two million covered lives.

C. REPORT ON LOC PRESENTATION

Billie Pierce

The Guilford Center was invited to speak to the Legislative Oversight Committee (LOC) on January 23, 2008. Anthony Ward gave a PowerPoint presentation on implementation of our Crisis Plan. He explained how our Community Needs Assessment and Gaps Analysis were used to develop the Crisis Plan. The presentation gave context to the Legislators about what our efforts are and how we are going about it. Senator Nesbitt and others commented that they thought it was a very good presentation.

D. CONTRACTS APPROVAL

Glenna Harford

The February contracts list was presented for Board approval. (See pink sheet in Board packet.) Board members were reminded to abstain from voting if they had a conflict of interest. Paula Cox-Fishman abstained. Linda Myers made a motion to approve the contracts. Sheron Sumner seconded the motion. The contracts were approved.

E. CLIENT RIGHTS MEMBER APPROVALS

Paula Cox-Fishman

Paula Cox-Fishman, Client Rights Committee Chair, and Judy Cooper, Guilford Center QI Coordinator have reviewed three applications for committee membership and have meet with the applicants. At this afternoon's Client Rights Committee meeting, the following three applicants were approved for membership.

- Melody Wood – Seat 3: Special Representative for Consumer, Former Consumer or Family Member
- Maureen Flak – Seat 4: Special Representative for SA Advocacy
- Rose Hood – Seat 5: special Representative for MH Advocacy

Upon a motion by W. A. Goodson and a second by Dianne Walton-Munden, the applicants were approved by the Board for Client Rights Committee membership.

VII. BOARD COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

Ray Pysher

Chair Pysher reviewed the Board Committee schedule that was included in the February 12th agenda.

VIII . ADJOURNMENT – 7:50 P.M.

Ray Pysher

There being no further business, Chair Pysher adjourned the meeting.

Approved by:

Ray Pysher

Date

On-site minutes by:
Date:

Dena Bailey
February 12, 2008