



**The Guilford Center
Board Meeting Minutes
232 N. Edgeworth Street
Greensboro, NC
March 13, 2007
6:30 PM – 8:10 PM**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Marshall Abee, Margaret Arbuckle, George Coates, Ann Gibbs, Paul Gibson, W. A. Goodson, John Hemphill, Mildred Hoffer-Foushee, Linda Myers, Jane Perrin, Ray Pysher, Sheron Sumner, David Talbot and Dianne Walton-Munden

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Paula Cox-Fishman, Kathryn Lindley, Pamela Palmer, and Bill Tankersley

STAFF PRESENT: Dena Bailey, Penny Casto, Ida Glasgow, Glenna Harford and Billie Pierce

I. CALL TO ORDER AND MOMENT OF SILENCE **Sheron Sumner**
The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. and a moment of silence was observed.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS **Sheron Sumner**
Chair Sumner pointed out that there were several items of interest on the back table including newspaper articles and a Communication Bulletin from the Division.

Chair Sumner held up the Annual Report from the Division of MH/DD/SAS. The cover artwork was done by Paula Cox-Fishman's sister, Pinky Cox.

Ray Pysher distributed a brochure entitled "Getting Where You Need to Go" and talked a little to the Board about Guilford County Transportation and Mobility Services. The County's Transportation Department has done a lot to try to expand the transportation services in Guilford County, giving consumers more choices. We need to be aware of what is available and make others aware also.

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

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 13, 2007 Meeting **Sheron Sumner**
Upon a motion by Dianne Walton-Munden and a second by Jane Perrin, the minutes from the February 13, 2007 meeting were unanimously approved as distributed in the Board packet.

V. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. LME Business Plan Approval

Ida Glasgow

Copies of the LME Business Plan 2007-2010 were mailed to Board Members for their review prior to the meeting. Ida Glasgow, Deputy Director, recapped the procedure utilized in writing the Plan. Along with a PowerPoint presentation, she explained the requirements and the process for the Plan, and the resulting focus areas for strategic planning for the next three years. The Board was also given an Executive Summary of the Business Plan and a hardcopy of the PowerPoint Presentation. After some discussion and a question and answer session, Ray Pysher made a motion to approve the Plan. Margaret Arbuckle seconded the motion. The LME Business Plan 2007-2010 was unanimously approved. The Plan will be voted on at the March 15th County Commissioners meeting as part of the Consent Agenda. If approved by the Commissioners, the Plan will be submitted to the State Division of MH/DD/SAS and posted on our website.

Ms. Glasgow thanked Susan Campbell, Glenna Harford, Anne Kimball, Anthony Ward, Penny Casto and Dena Bailey for all of their contributions to the Plan.

BOARD MEETING RECESSED AT 7:16 P.M. FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING CONVENED

VI. FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING (4TH meeting)

Glenna Harford

A. Contracts Approval

The March 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. George Coates abstained from voting. Linda Myers made a motion to approve the contracts. Marshall Abee seconded the motion. The contracts were approved as distributed.

B. Budget Update

Ms. Harford explained that the budget schedule has been thrown off a little this year due to the fact that we are using the new Lawson Information System that has been newly installed by the County. This is a new budget module which was created by Lawson for Guilford County. Thanks to our County Budget Director and his staff, who have been very supportive in the training and use of this new system, the transition has gone very smoothly.

Overall, the Guilford Center budget request for Fiscal Year 2007-08 represents a 3.7 percent reduction as compared to this year's budget, due in major part to less Medicaid revenues from provider staff who have been divested and from community providers who can now bill directly to the State Division of Medical Assistance. The allocation for Local Management Entity (LME) systems management is projected to

be unchanged from this year's amount of \$5,723,169. The position count is budgeted to remain at its current 199 full-time equivalents.

After questions and answers about the budget request, Ann Gibbs made a motion to approve the budget and Linda Myers seconded the motion. The Guilford Center Budget Request FY 2007-08 was unanimously approved. It will be submitted to the County Budget Office on March 16, 2007.

Ms. Harford also announced that the State has agreed to support a plan for the Guilford Center, Mecklenburg Area Authority and Smoky Mountain Center to form a collaborative partnership. The plan includes developing a Standardized UM Manual, implementing best practices among community providers, increasing penetration rates in substance abuse target populations, implementing an intensive care management program, and developing a State benefit plan based on local needs. The State has granted single stream funding to the Guilford Center and Mecklenburg Area Authority to support the collaborative plan. (Smoky Mountain Center has been operating under single stream funding for several years.) Single stream funding will enable the Guilford Center to maximize the use of State funds (better cash flow, easier to plan for the use of State Funds, avoid needing to request transfers between funds or swapping with other LMEs). Single stream funding will begin April 1, 2007. Smokey Mountain Center will provide training on management of State funds within the single stream funding mechanism.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:50 P.M.
BOARD MEETING RECONVENED – CONTINUED WITH DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

B. Homeless Initiative RFP

Billie Pierce

The North Carolina Legislature has earmarked funds to increase access to housing for homeless people needing both a place to live and mental health services. The Division of MH/DD/SAS has issued a Request for Application to Local Management Entities (LMEs) across the State to become pilot programs in the creation of community-based Housing Support Teams (HSTs). A maximum of three LMEs will be selected statewide to receive \$644,280 each, to fund a community Housing Support Team for an estimated 26-month project period. We received three applications in response to the RFP we released at the beginning of February. After a co-applicant has been selected by our review panel, the Guilford Center will submit a grant application for the pilot program to the State. If selected, the Guilford Center LME would administer the HST pilot project in Guilford County. The Center will contract with community provider agencies for service delivery.

C. Substance Abuse Treatment System

Billie Pierce

On March 2nd, the Guilford Center hosted a meeting for key public partners to discuss a proposal for implementing a community-wide system of care for substance abuse treatment. This modified system would establish an on-going substance

abuse academy to train staff within these public agencies about addiction, client engagement and induction strategies, and evidence based practices. A community team composed of public partners would be created following this training that would target its efforts to increase community awareness of science based perspectives of substance use disorders, to reduce stigma impeding service access for substance abusers, and to facilitate referrals to treatment. Meeting participants included the Guilford County Manager, Chairman of the County Commissioners, and representatives from District Court, the Social Services and Public Health Departments, the Greensboro and High Point Police Departments, Guilford County Sheriff's Department, and the Guilford County Substance Abuse Coalition. We are very excited about this opportunity that has been made possible for us by Paul Nagy and the Duke Endowment.

D. Board Retreat Update

Billie Pierce

As was discussed at last month's Board meeting, we will approach our Board retreat differently than we have the past two years. Orientation will be spread out over several meetings, rather than having an all day session. Ms. Pierce went over the tentative Board Orientation schedule. (See yellow handout.) April's meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m. with dinner and a brief business meeting to be followed by a presentation from one of our Best Practices consultants. Gene Johnson, President and CEO of Recovery Innovations, Inc. will present a comprehensive view of the concepts of recovery and explain the effectiveness of this best practice principle. A reminder of the earlier meeting time will be included in your April Board packet.

VII. BOARD COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

Sheron Sumner

The Board Committee schedule that was included in the agenda for the March 13, 2007 meeting was reviewed.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT -- 8:10 P.M.

Sheron Sumner

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

Approved by:

Sheron K. Sumner

On-site minutes by: Dena Bailey
Date: March 13, 2007