



**The Guilford Center  
Board Meeting Minutes  
Emergency Services Training Room  
1002 Meadowood Street  
Greensboro, NC  
June 14, 2005  
6:30 PM– 7:30 PM**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Marshall Abee, Margaret Arbuckle, Ben Atkinson, George Coates, Ann Gibbs, Mildred Hoffer-Foushee, Kathryn Lindley, Peter McKenna, Linda Myers, Pamela Palmer, Jane Perrin, Martha Stewart, Sheron Sumner, David Talbot, and Diane Walton-Munden

**BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Paula Cox-Fishman, Paul Gibson, W. A. Goodson, Bill Tankersley and Ellen Whitlock

**BOARD MEMBERS UNEXCUSED:** None

**STAFF PRESENT:** Dena Bailey, Glenna Harford, and Billie Pierce

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND MOMENT OF SILENCE** **Martha Stewart**  
The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. A moment of silence was observed.

**II. ANNOUNCEMENTS** **Martha Stewart**  
Billie Pierce announced that there are two Board members who have completed their terms and are rotating off of our Board: Peter McKenna and Ellen Whitlock. Peter was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation. Ellen could not attend the meeting; her Certificate will be mailed to her. Ray Pysher, who has been our CFAC Chair, has been appointed to fill Peter's seat.

We also have four re-appointments from the Board of Commissioners. Those re-appointments are: Marshall Abee, Linda Myers, Jane Perrin and Sheron Sumner.

This is Martha Stewart's last meeting as Chairperson and Ms. Pierce thanked Martha for her service in this position and for the support she has provided to Billie and the Board. Martha was presented with a gift of appreciation.

Martha expressed her thanks to all of the Board members for their service to the Board.

Congratulations went out to Pamela Palmer who won the High Point Chamber of Commerce "Minority Business Advocate Award."

The Board was reminded that we do not meet in July.

**III. SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR**

There were no speakers from the floor.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 10, 2005 Meeting**

Upon a motion by Marshall Abee and a second by Linda Myers, the minutes from the May 10, 2005 meeting were unanimously approved as distributed in the Board packet.

**V. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**A. Public Health Dept. Needle Exchange Pilot Program      Dr. John Campbell**

Dr. John Campbell from the Infectious Disease Department at Moses Cone Health Systems spoke to the Board about the proposed Needle Exchange Pilot Program and why he and his colleagues support this program. As an infectious disease doctor, Dr. Campbell sees every day the toll that HIV and Hepatitis C are taking on our community. The number of patients with HIV and Hepatitis C is staggering and growing rapidly. Intravenous drug use is a major factor in the spread of these diseases.

The Centers for Disease Control recently reported that for the first time ever in this country, we have over one million people living with HIV and we are no where near meeting the 2005 objective to cut the number of new infections each year in half – from 40,000 to 20,000. Clearly, what is currently being done to try to prevent the spread of these infections is not working.

Dr. Campbell strongly encouraged the Board to support HB 411 to develop a comprehensive program that includes needle and syringe exchange. Many organizations that have focused on the science of these programs (rather than the political controversy surrounding these programs) have come out with strong endorsements saying that these programs should really be expanded and available world-wide. Among these organizations are: the World Health Organization, the Centers for Disease Control, the National Institutes of Health, the American Bar Association, the National Drug Institute, the American Psychiatric Association, and the National Conference of U.S. Mayors. All of these organizations support rescinding the drug paraphernalia laws and encourage the adoption of these needle and syringe exchange programs. Studies conducted across the world show that these programs do not promote drug use, they do not encourage people who are not injecting drugs to start and they don't encourage people who are addicted and injecting to increase their drug use. Quite the contrary – the data shows that when active injecting drug users use these programs, they consistently tend to cause the users to decrease the number of injections per day and to enter drug treatment sooner than if they weren't in the program. The studies also indicate that these programs decrease the spread of HIV and Hepatitis C.

There will be three Needle Exchange Pilot Programs across the State and Guilford County would like to be one of those sites. The Guilford County Commissioners voted to support the resolution of the Health Department which basically gives the Health Department permission to ask to be a pilot study.

After a question and answer period, Margaret Arbuckle made a motion to support the Health Department's resolution to support House Bill 411 and to support Guilford County being a site for a pilot needle exchange program. The motion was seconded by Marshall Abee. The motion was unanimously approved.

**VI. BOARD CHAIR'S REPORT**

**Martha Stewart**

**A. Client Rights Committee Reappointment**

The Client Rights Committee is asking for approval of the re-appointment of two members for another term: Lura McClendon in Seat No. 2 (Consumer, Former Consumer, Family Member) and Melody Wood in Seat No. 5 (Mental Health Advocate). Their terms expire on June 30, 2005 and they are requesting re-appointment for another term to expire on June 30, 2007. Upon a motion by Katherine Lindley and a second by Millie Hoffler-Foushee, the re-appointments were unanimously approved.

**The Board Meeting Adjourned at 7:15 p.m.  
The Finance Committee Meeting Convened**

**VII. FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING (6<sup>th</sup> Meeting)**

**A. Contract Approvals**

**Glenna Harford**

Ms. Harford presented a list of contracts for approval. (See pink sheet in Board packet and pink handout.) Board members were reminded to abstain from voting if they had a conflict of interest. Martha Stewart abstained from voting due to her affiliation with the Mental Health Association. Peter McKenna abstained from voting due to his affiliation with Sanctuary House. George Coates and David Talbot abstained from voting as they are both employees of Moses Cone Health System. Sheron Sumner made a motion to approve the contracts as presented. Linda Myers seconded the motion. The contracts were approved.

**B. Budget Revision #7**

**Glenna Harford**

Ms. Harford presented Budget Revision #7 to the Board for approval (see green handout). The revisions are as follows:

- The State has de-allocated \$62,000 of Social Services Block Grant funding for the developmentally disabled population on a one-time basis. This revision will not affect the delivery of services to this population.
- The State has allocated \$6,439 of non-UCR Federal funds on a one-time basis, as a settlement for expenditures incurred in Fiscal Year 2004-05.

Upon motion by Kathryn Lindley and a second by Sheron Sumner, the budget revision was approved.

**C. FY 2005-2006 Budget Update**

**Glenna Harford**

Billie Pierce and Glenna Harford met with the County Commissioners on June 6<sup>th</sup> for our departmental budget session. Ms. Pierce gave the presentation which focused on our strategic plan and what we have ahead of us in the next few years. The only increase we requested was \$338,000 to cover the estimated severance costs for those employees who will be divested by the end of June 2006. Including merit increases and the increase in health insurance, which is substantial this year, our County budget is expected to increase by about \$900,000. The Commissioners' only line of questioning was on lapsed salary money. After the meeting, we provided a report on our vacant positions and lapsed salary money to County Manager Willie Best.

**The Finance Committee adjourned at 7:27 p.m.  
The Board Meeting reconvened.**

**VIII. COMMITTEE SCHEDULE AND MINUTES**

**Martha Stewart**

**Quality Council**

Next scheduled meeting: August 11, 2005  
232 N. Edgeworth St., 5<sup>th</sup> floor, 3:30 – 4:30 PM

**Client Rights**

Next scheduled meeting: August 9, 2005  
232 N. Edgeworth St., 5<sup>th</sup> floor, 4:00 – 5:00 PM

**Consumer and Family Advisory Committee**

Next scheduled meeting: June 28, 2005  
232 N. Edgeworth St., 4<sup>th</sup> floor, 5:30 – 7:30 PM

**IX. ADJOURNMENT – 7:30 p.m.**

There being no further business, Chair Stewart adjourned the Board meeting.

**Approved by:  
Sheron Sumner, Incoming Board Chair**

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**On-site minutes by: Dena Bailey  
Date: June 14, 2005**