



MENTAL HEALTH LOCAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes – July 19, 2021

IN ATTENDANCE:

Voting Members Present: Breanna Hume- Chair, Andrea Lower, Dani Stack, Joe Skinner, Michael Foust, Shirley Kaufman, Susan Gregory, Tom Peluso

Non-Voting Members Present: Bekki McLean, Chad Berg, Edward Sypinksi, Rebecca Adams, Erin Taylor, Jenny Huey, Kathy Wilkerson, John Kudrna

Voting Members Absent: Amanda Fahlstrom, Cyndi Schoep, Dezei Rochin, Geary Zale, I Ho Pomeroy, Linda Gabel, Molly Basta, Perrin Lundgren, Shelly Johnson, Maureen Womack

Staff: Jessica Dixon

~~~~~  
**Welcome and Introductions:** Breanna Hume welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Approval of Minutes for:** Meeting Minutes were not approved because there was not a quorum for approval. Not enough members so they will be tabled for this month.

We do not have quorum for voting purposes to approve the minutes.

#### **Committee Reports:**

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Presentation by Jenna Huey, Emergency Shelter Services Manager & John Kudrna, Recovery Specialist from HRDC on current happenings.

Recovery specialist has launched, yoga, meditation, gardening and several other groups that have helped the community. Average 5-6 people attending, 2-3 times a week.

Shirley Kaufman asked if the location was at the warming house, and yes they are. Tiny home village construction happening right next door. John Kudrna the recovery specialist will be joining in on the meetings monthly. How can we approach the chamber?

Commissioner Skinner asked if Jenna is involved in the chamber discussions on homelessness. Her supervisor should be joining those discussions. Best practice for staff to be able to know the warning signs and how to do that.

Tom Peluso asked to share your contact phone. She will include the contact info with her email to Breanna. Provide an executive summary on where things are happening, Tom should be able to pass that information on.

Susan Gregory asked what the hours are, and food or snacks. Sunday-Thursday 9-4 pm. They do have food ready meals, and a lot of snacks. Salvation Army drops off sack lunches Monday-Thursday. Showers, computer access, Wi-Fi, laundry etc. Private cubicle spaces available for clients or members to meet there.

Shirley Kaufman asked about kids pack. Jenna is not directly involved with that but they do have volunteers that go out to especially Spanish- Speaking families.

## **Old Business**

- Open Position – 3 positions are open  
Consumer/Family- Filled, Congratulations Linda Gabel  
CHP Position Open  
Law Enforcement Position Open – sent to Erin Taylor, waiting to get application  
Health Department Open
- Resource Guide – Perrin sent update this morning, she did get some information from one of the printers. Quoted her cost, \$4880. Could not get contact with the Chronicle since they have been out sick. She will present next month about 211 and how to access those resources, with more quotes next month as well. Shirley Kaufman commented about how FedEx might be another option. Tom Peluso wants to take another look at it as things might have changed since we developed this project. A prototype to send to the board members.

**Progress update** – Perrin & Shelly Johnson- director of alcohol and drug services will be retiring.

**Reports** – No reports submitted

**Public Comment-Short Announcements or Updates-** Shelly Johnson will be retiring at the end of July. Robin will be taking her spot. Cyndi Schoep will also be retiring, and could be a potential spot for the new applicant.

Andrea Lower asked if we should have a detention center specific board member. Addendum to the bylaws would have to be made. Commissioner Skinner asked if this is something that the group would like us to do, Breanna and Jessica can work on that together to change the bylaws but if it something we want to do we can do that. A conversation with the sheriff and undersheriff whether or not they want to separate that. Erin Taylor can look into that for us.

Zoom meeting tomorrow and Wednesday regarding those monies from steak holders, where they want them to go. Monthly, incorporating LAC, and other community members. Andrea can send those out as she receives them.

Chad Berg wants to raise some awareness on the Chronicle article about how Bozeman Schools are going to pay for behavioral treatment programs. Article from July 12<sup>th</sup>. Breanna asked if there is an opportunity to help with that to reach out.

Tom Peluso – alliance of mental health providers. Mary Windecker gave a testimony. He sent it out for distribution. Mental Health care in Montana is on the verge of collapse. He would like a better way of communicate this to the group. Commissioner Skinner agrees that everyone in the LAC should read that testimony. Commissioner Skinner said to send it to the commission email and Jessica can send it to everyone. Rebecca Adams got the email as well and was very shaken up, and something needs to be done about this. Shirley Kaufman agrees. Breanna did not get

anything that she is aware of. Shirley and Tom would like the emails sent to gallatinLAC, to be forwarded, all of them. They meet every Tuesday with another LAC group for members of the LAC within the 15 counties to better our communication. Michael Foust found the documents and shared them on the chat.

Meeting adjourned.

**Next Meeting: August 16, 2021**

**Account Balance Currently: \$6948.18 at last check-in**