



MENTAL HEALTH LOCAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

March 13th, 2023

12:00 - 1:00 PM

Gallatin County Courthouse Community Room and Via Zoom

IN ATTENDANCE:

Voting Members Present- Erin Taylor, Linda Gabel, Commissioner Brown, Geary Zale, Andrea Lower, Lori Christensen, Nicole Madden, Anthea George, John Kudrna, Ryan Mattson, Roper Green, Yvonne Rudman, Eric Szemes

Non-Voting Members Present- Ellie Martin and Kim Hall

Voting Members Absent

Guests- Kirsten Smith- BHC

Staff- Pamela Lammey

- **Call to Order-** Erin Taylor welcomed everyone to the meeting.

- **Roll Call-** Pamela Lammey took attendance.

- **Approval of Minutes-**

Linda Gabel moves to approve minutes the February 13th minutes. Lori Christensen seconds the Motion. All in favor say aye. Motion carried.

The minutes stand as corrected.

- **Officer and Committee Reports**

- **Work Group/Strategic Planning Committee**

Linda Gable has seven returned surveys from the voting members. The survey was sent to the voting members. The biggest reason we are doing the survey is to engage the members of the committee.

Priorities should be added to coordinate with the Behavioral Health Coalition and the activities that the Coalition are working on.

Linda would like to start moving on actual projects and improve mental health care in Gallatin County. It takes 3-4 four months to get an appointment. Linda sees many opportunities as a citizen committee to assist the community to get services in place. She would like everyone to return the survey.

Andrea Lower has made Linda aware of mini grants for funding for projects. Please think about what kind of grant the LAC could put together for any projects such as Mental Health First Aid.

Andrea Lower – DPHHS grants money to different regions in the state. It could be around \$75,000. The grants could be applied for through LAC or CSSA. The project amount could be about \$5,000 or so for each project.

Mental Health Awareness Month is May.

John Kudrna – would like to bring the Community together. Erin Taylor would like the foundation established first.

Nicole Madden – Not many updates. Nicole would like an additional person on board for the Social Media Outreach. She would like to propose a motion to appoint Ashley Umbaugh (Certified Peer Specialist with Bozeman Health) to join the LAC has a non-voting member for social media outreach.

Nicole Madden moves to appoint Ashley Umbaugh as a nonvoting member. Lori Christensen seconds the motion. All in favor say aye. Motion carried.

Anthea George asked why Ashley wouldn't want to volunteer without being a member at large. Nicole added that Ashley would like to be a member and the reason for an August timeline, because the member at large could be re-evaluated. The other piece of the member at large is to assist Nicole with the social media accounts and allowing Ashley access. Nicole would feel more comfortable with her being a member at large instead of just a volunteer.

Commissioner Brown added for Nicole to reach out to Whitney Bermes, Gallatin County's Communication Coordinator to set up a meeting with her for more information or management framework.

Nicole said the effort for the next 6 months is to work with Ashley and Whitney on the social media. Nicole being a volunteer too, her plate is full so this option with adding Ashley will help support the effort.

Yvonne Rudman – asked who decides what will be added to social media. Commissioner Brown stated that there were preexisting social media accounts that need to be cleaned up.

Facebook and Instagram will be the two platforms being used.

Ryan knows Ashley and she would bring a lot of experience. He supports the Motion.

Lori Christensen – thinking about some of the gaps and opportunities. She does have an AmeriCorp/Vista position that could help with the work.

Eric Szemes supports Lori's intention also. He would like to follow-up with Lori regarding the AmeriCorp. He supports the idea.

Geary Zale doesn't have anything to add.

Yvonne Rudman – Are we intending to offer resources by other organizations. Partnering with NAMi, etc.

Ellie Martin – What sort of resources should we send out – events or a resource, etc. Those items could be sent to the Social Media Administrator to post on social media.

Anthea George – she knows there is a motion on the table. Anthea supports the side conversation with Ameri-Corp helping with the social media. She would like to suggest a mini grant to hire someone who can be the facilitator for better communication with the LAC to the Community.

- **Outreach Committee**

No updates from Nicole Madden (late) or Tom Peluso because they are absent.

- Accounting
- Unfinished Business
 - Member at Large for Outreach Committee
- New Business
 - Survey Responses: Prioritize Objectives
- Announcements

Month of April – Recovery 2.0 is a four-day retreat. Mental Health and Recovery Emersion. John Kudrna has more information. Yoga and meditation practices. April 13-16 in Big Sky. Tommy Rosen – Recovery Expert will be attending. This is a great opportunity. John will send out all the information in an email to members.

Eric Szemes would like to make an announcement. He attended the last Behavioral Health Coalition Meeting, and he thinks there was important information presented. He would like to partner with the Behavioral Health Coalition. How are we distinct from their committee and how do we work with or beside Behavioral Health Coalition.

Erin Taylor said there is a meeting coming up. Kirsten Smith agrees. There is a strategic planning conversation on April 19th with Behavioral Health Coalition. Kirsten does have a survey out too. Kirsten would the survey sent out to all LAC members/non-members to get their feedback. Once our surveys are in from LAC then Erin would like to see Behavioral Health survey out to LAC members.

Linda Gabel would like to see our strategic plan together then we can interface with the coalition. We would like to have two groups but not competing groups.

Anthea George – thinks there is an opportunity here not to overlook the two groups looking at next steps. There is a relationship for increased collaboration and intentional non duplication and intentional resources.

- **Public Comment**

Erin asked for Public Comment and hearing none.

- **Adjournment**

Linda Gabel moves to adjourn today's meeting. Roper Green seconds the motion. All in favor say aye. Motion carried.

Next Meeting: April 10th, 2023

Erin Taylor, Board Chair