

Mental Health Response Advisory Committee (MHRAC)
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 15, 2017

In Attendance:

Co-Chair Danny Whatley, The Rock at Noon Day
Nancy Koenigsberg, Disability Rights NM
Robert Salazar, NAMI/Peer Representative
Yvette Garcia, APD/C.O.A.S.T.
Michele Franowski, F I C
Betty Whiton, NAMI
David Webster
Ellen Braden, CABQ-Dept. of Family & Comm.
Services
William E. Narrow, MD., M.P.H., UNM Dept. of
Psychiatry
David Ley, NM Solutions
Auditor: Cynthia Martinez, APD
Scribe: Yvette Marentes, APD

Absent:

Paula Burton, Peer Representative
Rick Miera, Executive Committee
Lt. John Gonzales, APD
Nils Rosenbaum, M.D., APD Behavioral Health
Division
Det. Matt Tinney, APD Crisis Intervention Unit
Steve Bringe, Peer Representative

Meeting called to order at 5:01 pm, quorum of 10 was met at time of start.

Welcome to First Timer(s):

Rich Hernandez from Desert Hills Residential Treatment Center attended for his first time and was recognized by the Council

Approval of meeting minutes:

Motion made by Danny Whatley to approve July meeting minutes.
Discussion on meeting minutes and amendments to the minutes were suggested.

Motion made by Danny Whatley to approve July meeting minutes as amended.
Minutes approved 10-0

Public Comment:

Detective Bonnie Briones wanted to make us aware of an incident last week, she encountered two business owner's on 6th and copper towering over a homeless man and tasing him. When she finally caught up to the victim, he stated that the men said they were APD. The incident is being investigated further. If you hear anything in that nature please notify APD.

Danny Whatley notified the group that one of the regulars at The Rock at Noon Day was murdered down the street, he was beaten to death. There was discussion that someone from outside the homeless community committed the homicide. He noted there is a lot of anger and frustration within The Rock at Noon Day community about the situation.

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David Ley stated on a good note; an officer was called a few weeks ago to NM solutions regarding a disgruntled patient. The officer who responded was great and dealt with the individual in a very helpful manner. The officer said he is CIT trained and it really helped him to deal with the interaction. And that patient is still coming in for services when she might not have continued to come in due to the crisis she was having that day. This is exactly the kind of scenarios that we are happy to see.

Introduction of new administrative support staff:

Introduced new MHRAC Administrative Assistant, Yvette Marentes, to the group. There is an email set up now for the MHRAC admin mhrac@cabq.gov, however we are still waiting on Yvette to be given access to the email from the city. We have worked very hard to get the position approved for the MHRAC Admin. The woman that was hired previously quit the first day due to medical concerns and they had to go through a series of interviews to find the right person. It has been a real challenge but everyone is very excited to have the MHRAC Admin position now filled.

Discussion and review of bylaws:

Copies of the bylaws were handed out for review. It is encouraged that all go through them so we can reevaluate and amend what we need to amend. Our membership is down so we need to think about those changes as well. Also, the bylaws state that there should be 19 members however, we do not have 19 members any longer. We need to either get 19 members the bylaws amended or both.

Bylaws also state that every member needs to be a member of a sub-committee. We will need to take a look at which members do not have a sub-committee and assist them in finding a sub-committee if needed. Last revision of the bylaws was done in November, 2016. Everyone should take their copy and go over the bylaws so we can have a firm discussion about them next meeting.

Rick Miera and Danny Whatley announced last month that they were resigning as co-chairs at the last meeting, however Danny Whatley is going to stay on until we can get attendance back up, the new administration is in office, and someone to fill his seat. He wants to do things differently in terms of nominations for replacements and we need to discuss how we are going to go about nominating new board members.

Question from Nancy Koenigsberg– Do we email suggestions and changes to the new email address?

That is the direction that we are going. There also has to be a deadline on the agenda items to ensure that they are added into the upcoming meeting discussion.

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Danny Whatley – We also need suggestions on agenda items to discuss, he is having trouble coming up with new agenda items except for the re-occurring agenda items. We may end up with no agenda items in the future.

Discussion and review of recently approved policies and those pending:

Handouts were distributed with CASA Related Policies and Procedures, and the General Standard Operating Policies. We need to have a discussion as to which policies we need to be involved with, CASA related only or are there more?

Nancy Koenigsberg – It is very helpful to see the policies and where they fit. Is part of this discussion going to be about how to regularize? We have struggled with getting enough time to give input as we are not receiving things in time. We need to get on some sort of calendar or regular cycle.

Danny Whatley– Future Co-Chairs, whoever they may be, will need to be part of this process and discuss putting input into certain policies. We need an invite to OPA (office of policy analysis.) The flow chart that is currently in place is just not working. We are concerned, with not only the front end but the finished product. APD right now with the mayoral race is in a state of flux not knowing what is going to happen. Due to this, it is a bit of a bad time to think about making revisions as everything can change in the next few months. Danny Whatley stated he spoke to mayoral candidates and recommended to keep the next Chief of Police local and stated we all know who he is recommending. The Color-coded document that was handed out to everyone refers to the policies that are CASA related.

Nancy Koenigsberg – Thinks that it is important that we look at the policies for CASA there are other policies that may be of interest to the council. Even if it isn't listed as a policy directed towards MHRAC, does not mean that it is prohibited.

Danny Whatley – We need to decide if we want to be part of the review process of the policies, if so how involved.

Nancy Koenigsberg – stated that with the Behavioral Sciences SOP 1-11, MHRAC was not given the opportunity to give input; with the reorganization of Behavioral Sciences she feels MHRAC should be given the opportunity to compare the new SOP to the previous one and comment. All of the documents handed out are on the APD website, they are not hard to find. <https://www.cabq.gov/police/>

Deputy Chief Eric Garcia, we as a board need more time, they need to get out to MHRAC sooner. MHRAC should attend OPA and PPRB If necessary the policies should be reviewed more

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as well. Danny Whatley – Hopefully we can get involved. Deputy Chief Eric Garcia -stated that this way MHRAC can guarantee that their voice is heard.

Report and Update from APD/CIU:

Lieutenant Zach Wesley – Let us know that, Nils Rosenbaum, BHD Director, Detective Matt Tinney, Detective Lawrence Saavedra and Dr. Peter Winograd are attending the CIT International Conference. People at the conference are very excited to have them there. It is good for the unit and the city to get our name out there and people in the country can see what we are doing. Other cities are using us as an example, thank you to all for all that we do to get our information out there.

CNT – Last MHRAC Training Subcommittee meeting we went over the 8 hour portion on the CNT class. PowerPoints were distributed to the committee, lesson plans and all material that was requested were reviewed. Thank you to the Lieutenant Mizel Garcia for getting to the committee. David Ley stated that the Initial impression was that it was quite thorough, everything that was requested was there, the department complied and everything looks good. Lieutenant Mizel Garcia wanted to make sure everyone knew that Sergeant Nick Sanders and Detective Bonnie Briones did a great job creating the lesson plans.

A concern was raised about making sure CIU detectives were able to review the lesson plans and get their recommendations. CIU Detectives/Training Team were present and able to provide feedback. And they went through every lesson plan. One area they realized did not need to be included in the 8 hours was the peer panel. All CNT officers will have taken the 40 Hour CIT class and they get peer panel exposure during that training. We reviewed for the lesson plans and thinks it is a better idea to not have a peer panel. They are going to allow people to sign up and attend the course soon.

Deputy Chief Eric Garcia stated that APD is going to the IACP (International Association of Chiefs of Police) this October. CIU will be doing a presentation and a short film on CIU will be playing on a loop while there.

Nancy Koenigsberg – Seems that you guys are getting all sorts of national attention, which is great!

Danny Whatley stated that previously it was the Memphis Model, which is 40 years old now.

David Ley stated that there has been a tremendous amount of violence and police activity in the news lately, and he appreciates the department's involvement. He asked if there has been behavioral health components and if so is there anything that we, as a board, can do. Is there something we are missing?

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Deputy Chief Eric Garcia, stated providing resources for some of these people would help. Some of these crimes are random acts of violence or drug related. We need to get more people into treatment programs to try and help end this cycle. We need other options in the community to help.

Danny Whatley stated that most of the Law Enforcement involved shootings have been with BCSO and Federal Officers. He is seeing that for the first time in years, aggressiveness and increasing homeless on homeless violence. There are more weapons are in the community. David Ley stated his staff is growing increasingly concerned, they are out in the community a lot they are feeling nervous. They do not feel as safe and are encountering things that they didn't before. And with the recent shootings that happened on Montgomery, we are worried about the officers on the street, numbers of officers are very low and we are worried that can cause burnout for these officers. If an officer is stressed out or overworked, they are more susceptible to have negative encounters with civilians and he is worried that might happen. We have to be clear everything is not great, we are working hard and doing great job but there is more to be done.

Nancy Koenigsberg there's a draft MOU that's being worked on between CABQ/APD and UNM Health Sciences Center. It discusses under what circumstances do we keep someone's medical information confidential or release to APD CIU. The last draft was reviewed by committee in the information sharing sub room in April, there were 10-12 people on the call, and they had concerns regarding CIU and Mental health professionals. Are they working towards the best interest of the individual in crisis or are they working with APD's best interest. CIU and mental health professionals were not working towards initiatives. Mental health professionals can share with mental health professionals under certain circumstances. These paragraphs are concerning because they can violate someone's privacy.

- APD provides medical treatment
- There is a discussion about making it okay to share medical information with an APD officer when someone might not be a threat to themselves or to others
- UNM shall provide information regarding CIU clients when requested by CIU – information is shared regardless if neither meet MH code criteria.

David Ley stat he know that Nils Rosenbaum has provided emergency medical treatment and has prescribed medication to people on the case load in an emergency. He does appreciate the spirit of the MOU but is concerned that information released without a court order would violate consumer rights. This is not as much of an APD issue, he thinks that UNM is asking for a huge lawsuit if there is an agreement with this.

Nancy Koenigsberg stated to her knowledge this MOU has not been signed.

Danny Whatley stated that even if it is signed now, with the New Chief of Police taking office soon, this agreement could be voided if the new Chief decides to no resign.

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Report and update from sub-committees:

Training

On behalf of Paula –Cynthia Martinez passed out a schedule of review for all CIU trainings. There are 4 lesson plans planned for next week to be reviewed. This will be done every month along with a letter each month that will be signed by the co-chairs of the Training Subcommittee.

Cynthia Martinez explained the her primary role is to ensure the CASA paragraphs that relate to behavioral health are turning in all documents that the monitor requests She is looking to show be able to prove the efficiency of MHRAC. We have not yet provided formal feedback to the monitor. The Schedule itself may have some changes made to it with the ECHO Classes coming up. Hopefully everyone is reviewing the lessons prior to them attending the MHRAC Training Subcommittee meetings.

Danny Whatley stated that if it becomes too cumbersome for the training subcommittee, we may pass it to others to help.

Training Subcommittee meets this coming Monday at the FAC 10am.

Information Sharing

Nothing to report

Resources

Yvette Garcia stated that the Resource subcommittee is still seeking a Chair and/or Co-Chair. Lieutenant Zach Wesley may be interested. The resource cards that have been created are being used a lot, COAST/CIU is almost out again. Karen Navarro is working on getting a working group together to see, if any changes need to be made. The cards have two sides, homelessness and non-homelessness, and every service provider has access to them.

Comments from Co-Chairs:

Danny Whatley stated that until we get our membership back up and make decisions on bi-laws he will remain in his position as Chair of the Board. Rick Miera has officially stepped down and is busy running for Lt. Governor and we may see very little of him for now.

Nancy Koenigsberg stated we should have PowerPoint slides on a regular basis so we have consistency on the data that is tracking. What about the quarterly presentation from Dr. Winograd? Deputy Chief Eric Garcia stated we are on track for a presentation next month.

Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn approved at 5:59 p.m.

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Next Meeting, September 19, 2017 5:00 pm at The Rock at Noon Day