



**Minutes of the City of Albuquerque Human Rights Board**

**Regular Meeting**

**Tuesday, May 17, 2016**

**Albuquerque Open Space Visitor's Center**

**6500 Coors NW**

**Albuquerque, NM 87114**

1. Call to Order

Chairwoman Dusadee Sarangarm called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. (MST) at the Open Space Visitor's Center.

Board Members Present:

Ms. Dusadee Sarangarm

Mr. Enrique Aguilar

Ms. Elaine Miller

Mr. Gary Williams

Ms. Tina Tomlin

STAFF PRESENT

Nick Bullock, Board and Assistant City Attorney

Annabelle J. Romero, Deputy Director, Office of Diversity and Human Rights

PUBLIC PRESENT: none

2. Chairwoman Dusadee Sarangarm asked if everyone had looked at the agenda for Tuesday, May 17, 2016 and asked for a motion to approve. The motion was made and seconded. Approval of agenda passed unanimously.
3. A motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday, February 16, 2016 was made and seconded. Approval of the minutes passed unanimously.
4. Introductions were made at this time in behalf of the newest member Tina Tomlin. Ms. Tomlin is Director of Constituent Services for Bernalillo County. Prior to that she was with 911, a special education teacher with APS and with a medical supply distribution company. Ms. Tomlin, as a newly appointed member, and Chairwoman Sarangarm, who was recently reinstated, were sworn in by Board Attorney Nick Bullock.

5. The 2016 Resolution, Notice requirement for Meetings of the Board was unanimously approved and signed by Chairwoman Sarangarm.
  
6. Doug Chaplin, Director of Family and Community Services (FCS), provided an update of the Mayor's Mental Health Initiative called the Creating Community Solutions Dialogues that began in July of 2013. The community dialogues consisted of six facilitated conversations one in each of the four quadrants of the city and one in Sandoval and Valencia counties with community stakeholders resulting in 22 action steps. These action steps with the results of the city/county mental health task force and the CPR report that was contracted by Bernalillo County are now working closely together with the county and implementation of the cities work.

Doug Chaplin is the Mayor's designate on the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Government Commission (ABCGC). The ABCGC is in place to do a lot of things but both city and county governments empowered the ABCGC body to be the vetting agency for mental health initiatives. There is a small working group staffed by FCS and Bernalillo County that came up with four priorities and adopted by the ABCGC. Those are crisis services, community support, housing, prevention of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ reduction. These will be reported back to the respective governing board for ratification like funding, there may be an RFP that would have to be approved.

Committees have been formed and are made up of a broad representation of subject matter experts and community representatives. There was a call for resumes that resulted in 70-90 different resumes. Individuals with a conflict of interest were eliminated for transparency purposes. The approved individuals have been named, vetted, notified and expected to begin work within a couple of weeks. Two areas that will get immediate attention will be around crisis services, implementing mobile crisis units starting with APD a designated small number of officers that would respond to calls. There will also be a link to New Mexico CAL (community assistance line). The overarching goal is to reduce recidivism into jails, to psych emergency rooms and to state mental hospitals and reduce these folks from the streets. Those that will go along with the police officer would be a master's level clinician that has some skills and supervised by a doctor. This model is based on the units visited in Tucson, Arizona and Portland, Oregon. Ideally will be able to engage individuals with mental illness and connect them with services.

We are also looking at a permanent support housing model possibly located around Central area that would have permanent housing and wrap around services located onsite for people experiences severe mental illness.

Some of the other things that have occurred are:

- The state legislature passed Senator Mary Kay Papen's bill, SB-113 Assisted Outpatient Treatment Act, Family and Community Services and Bernalillo County

and UNM are looking to apply for the SAMHSA grant (\$15M) to go out to municipalities that are implementing assisted out-patient treatment.

- Creating Community Solutions Dialogues on Mental Health Report can be found at <https://www.cabq.gov/family/live-well-albuquerque/growth>
- New Mexico 24/7 Crisis Line with licensed professional New Mexico CAL (community assistance line) is up and running and can be found at <http://www.nmcrisisline.com>.
- Rolling out Mental Health First Aid, an in-person training that teaches you how to help people developing a mental illness or in a crisis. <http://www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org/cs/>
- The APD Mental Health Response Advisory Committee (MHRAC), a group formed through the DOJ agreement that calls for community representation, continues to meet with a focus on creating solutions that lead to improved outcomes regarding police contact with mentally ill individuals as well as the homeless.
- City/County Behavioral Task Force deal with recommendations and looking at the county tax revenues and how they should be spent.
- The Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Government Commission (ABCGC), an intergovernmental coordinating body brings together Albuquerque City Council and Bernalillo County Board of Commissioners to address a variety of issues including some recent resolutions to create a collaborative process for behavioral health reform. More information can be found at [www.livewellabq.info](http://www.livewellabq.info)

Some of the things we've done to help break down stigma:

- Engaged in activities around the community trying to raise awareness through NAMI Walks.
- Mr. Chaplin spoke at an art gallery sponsored by four different agencies to raise funds for suicide prevention.
- Mental Health First Aid has trained about 400 city and 800 county employees and other entities. The training provides information on the real spectrum of all mental diagnosis that occur and the tools in how to react to somebody with mental illness. Tool assessment includes listening in a non-judgmental way, to give encouragement and encourage them to seek professional help.
- AFD has and received a CIT designed for them that is not as intensive training as APD but they encounter a lot of individuals with mental illness so they are able to recognize what is going on and provide assistance and connect them to resources.
- Breaking the Silence is an intervention/prevention being deployed in 20 different high schools around the City that is a tool involving sitting down in a safe environment and talking with kids in a compassionate way about their feelings, whether we need to worry or not and most importantly being able to talk to a counselor or parent about issues they may have.
- Another role out is in early child development ages 0-5 where 4-5 year olds are learning to express their feelings through song and guitar, how to talk with them and deal with them.

- The City is trying to take a broad approach to informing people about issues surrounding mental health illness.

7. Director's Report – Ms. Romero provided the usual report that Gabe Campos produces that includes a number of cases the Office of Diversity and Human Rights (ODHR) handles including all ADA issues. ODHR is working on putting together an annual report of all cases and projects the office has handled. Some projects mentioned include:
  - a. Assisting the new ADA Council, a nine member board with five members appointed, to get started and establish their board
  - b. Working with Family and Community Services on Administrative Rules
  - c. Working on a Robert Wood Johnson grant for senior housing
  - d. Coordinating U-Visa with APD
  - e. Collaborative effort to address Race Equity for the City of Albuquerque
  - f. Managing Pay Equity
  - g. Mr. Campos is working closely with UNM School of Medicine where medical students evaluate community services.

Ms. Romero provided an example of an ADA complaint for an accommodation at the Old Town Plaza Portal Vendor Program. The Office of Diversity and Human Rights (ODHR) worked with Cultural Services Department (CSD) to address the issue and a vendor request for additional time to unload and load their wares. ODHR was successful in coordinating with CSD to address the issue and make several modifications that was agreeable to the vendor.

8. Public Comment -- The Board did not receive notification of public comment.
9. New Business/Announcements – Mr. Aguilar gave kudos to Director Gabe Campos for expeditiously addressing an issue concerning handicapped parking at Jerry Cline Park.
10. Adjournment -- There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Chairperson Dusadee Sarangarm adjourned the meeting. The next Regular Meeting of the Board is scheduled for Tuesday, August 16, 2016 at 4:00 p.m., location to be determined. The meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

SUBMITTED:

READ AND APPROVED:

***Signed copy available on request***

***Signed copy available on request***

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Mr. Gabriel Campos

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Dusadee Sarangarm

Secretary to the Board

Chairperson of the Board

Date: Tuesday, May 17, 2016