Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (NCDHH)

**Mental Health Advisory Committee Meeting**

notes

**Date:** Thursday, November 17th, 2022

**Time:** 2:00 – 4:00 PM

**Location:** 1313 Farnam Street, Room 227, Omaha NE

**Interpreters:** Sharon Sinkler and Amber Tucker

**Minutes:** Jamie Petersen

**CART:** None

**Members Present:**, Ms. Diane Meyer Ms. Briana Stradinger, Ms. Kathleen Valle, Ms. Linda Wittmuss, Mr. Erik Decker, Dr. Joan Daughton, Ms. Rhonda Rankin, Ms. Tracey Minto

**NCDHH Staff Present: Ms.** Sharon Price, Behavioral Health Coordinator; Ms. , Advocacy Specialist

**Technical Advisors Present:** Ms. Diane Meyer

**Members Absent:**

**Technical Advisors Absent:** Ms. Sue Czaplewski

1. **Meeting call to order:**

Ms. Sharon Price called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

… announced the notice of the meeting was duly given, posted, published, and tendered in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, and all board members received notice simultaneously by email. Publication of official notice of the meeting appeared in a legal newspaper of general circulation in this state, as required by the Open Meetings Act.

1. **Approval of the Agenda:**

… made the motion to accept the agenda. … seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion carried with all voting aye.

1. **Approval of prior meeting minutes for April 12th and August 4th, 2022:**

No corum at today’s meeting, means approval of previous April and Aug meetings will be tabled until enough voting members present.

1. **New business:**
   * Ms. Sharon Price new dates from doodle poll and dates for zoom/in-person discussed, tabled to vote for next meeting.
2. **Discussion:**
   * **Member committee updates:**

Ms. Sharon Price reviewing bylaws, 3 counselor, 3 human services and 2 tech. advisors. Wanting to add law enforcement, CODA, LGBT, ASL-fluent counselor, and a deaf/HH consumer of MH services. Ms. Diane Meyer unsure if we would be able to get all these reps at the table in-person, so not sure about it but worthwhile reaching out. Ms. Tracey Minto involved with first-responders foundation, law and firefighters, Jason Workman previous committee member may be a good “in” for that representation. Ms. Price discussion on other connections she has. Ms. Meyer suggested someone from project harmony.

Dr. Daughton wanting clarification on laws regulating in-person/zoom allowance considering wanting to bring in more statewide representation. Discussion on how to work through a “hybrid” meeting setup. Ms. Stradinger seconds the suggestion. Ms. Price will email out current bylaws. Ms. Minto asked if Ms. Price is aware of the process to adjust the bylaws – Ms. Price needs to do more research on the process. Last update was 2016. Discussion on this process. No further discussion.

Mr. Decker spoke about his experience with patient-family advisory committee. Could bring an example to share.

* + Agency Updates:
    - Ms. Diane Meyer Regional program: fall outing on Sep. 24/25. Sat wildlife safari park, Sunday joined the Omaha zoo NCDHH event. Discussion on how this unfolded and how the kids enjoyed it. Doggone Problems looking at dog training, hearing service animals, etc. 20 families registered for … event, parents having sign lessons and kids activities (last weekend). Nov. 28 elementary extravaganza, K-5 doing activities. Winter social for 10 11 12 grades, Dec. 10 11 12. Battle of the books, NE team made it to the next level, Dec. 7th next competition. Academic bowl team has a competition in Dec. as well.

Explanation on funding and contract for MH services with Boystown. Sponsoring interpreter EIPA workshops. Community sign classes. Q&A.

* + - Erick Decker CHI health: working on a coordinator position to focus on deaf/HH/ASL interpreter services. Discussion on downtime issues.
    - Briana Stradinger VR: New hire, learning the ropes, will be reviewing her cases. Keeping an eye out on what she can bring from work to this committee. Discussion on importance and impact of youth/role models.
    - Dr. Daughton Children’s: Building behavioral health and wellness center for children. Conflict with CHI’s initial idea on this. What part are both agencies going to play in this. 2025 finish date. Lots of discussion on new building and partnerships between hospitals.
    - Rhonda Rankin … : Communication assessment tool to determine their communication needs.
    - Tracey Minto … : Update on her new relationship with first response and how to bridge gaps in mental health. Part of another board as well working on an interstate compact for mental health. Discussion on how to get ARPA rural funding word out. Licensing board LISTSERV cost $184. Ms. Minto can share purchasing link to Ms. Price, may not have a cost if from a state agency.

Discussion on this.

* + Ms. Stradinger provided a brief review of today’s discussion.

1. **Next Meeting Dates / Meeting Time from 2p – 4p:**
   * …
2. **Meeting Adjournment:**
   * Ms. Stradinger adjourned the meeting at 3:38pm.