COUNTY OF SAN MATEO  
MENTAL HEALTH & SUBSTANCE ABUSE  
RECOVERY COMMISSION  

Adopted Minutes  
Wednesday, February 5, 2020  
225 37th Avenue, Room 100, San Mateo  

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Nash, Cherry Leung, Chris Rasmussen, Donald Mattei, Jan Wongchuking, Leticia Bido, Mark Duri, Patricia Way, Randy Torrijos, Sheila Brar, Yoko Ng  

STAFF: Scott Gruendl, Chantae Rochester, Doris Estremera, Claudia Saggese, Jairo Wilches  

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:  
   Excused: Catherine Koss,  
   Un-excused: Wanda Thompson, Isabel Uibel  

OTHERS PRESENT (signed in): John Butler, Jean Perry, Michael Horgan, Christopher Hoover, Adriana Furuzawa, Lee Nash, Michael Lim, Cindy Robbins, Helene Zimmerman, Bruce Adams, Veronica Palmer, Robert Ferreira, Frances Becker, Kapil Chopra  

CALL TO ORDER  
The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Patricia Way  

INTRODUCTIONS  

APPROVAL OF TODAY’S AGENDA  
   ►M/S/C  Rasmussen/Way  

APPROVAL OF MINUTES  
Approval of minutes from the December 4, 2019 Mental Health & Substance Abuse Recovery Commission Meeting.  
   ►M/S/C  Way/Ng  

Approval of minutes from the December 18, 2019 Executive Committee Meeting  
   ►M/S/C  Way/Ng  

Correspondence, Announcements, and Public Comment  
NAMI Peer to Peer Class will begin the end of this month. Contact NAMI for more information.
A. **Committee for Children & Youth**  
**Reported by Chris Rasmussen**  
Next meeting will be held on February 18, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.  
2000 Alameda de las Pulgas, Room 201, San Mateo

B. **Committee for Adults**  
**Reported by Yoko Ng**  
Next meeting will be held on February 18, 2020 at 10:30 a.m.  
2000 Alameda de las Pulgas, Room 209, San Mateo

C. **Committee for Older Adults**  
**Reported by Patricia Way**  
The next meeting will be held on March 4, 2020 at 11:00 a.m.  
2000 Alameda de las Pulgas, Room 201, San Mateo.

**Director’s Report**  
Reported by Scott Gruendl, Assistant Director

The San Mateo County of Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing on the elimination and/or reductions in the level of certain health services provided by the County, and/or the closing of County health facilities. The hearing will be held at the following time and place:

**Tuesday, March 10, 2020, at 9:00 a.m.**

Board of Supervisors  
Hall of Justice  
400 County Center  
Redwood City, CA  94063

At the hearing, the San Mateo County of Board of Supervisors will consider the impact of the proposed reductions and/or proposed elimination of health services on San Mateo County residents. Public testimony, both oral and written, will be accepted at this meeting.

**MHSA Update**  
Reported by Doris Estremera, MHSA Manager

**Action Item:**  
Vote to close 30-day Public Comment Period for the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Annual Update

► M/S/C Way/Nash  Passed Unanimously

**Liaison, Task Force and Ad Hoc Committees**  
Suicide Prevention Committee  
Reported by Yoko Ng

The Suicide Prevention Committee met on February 4  
Dr. Bob Cabaj gave a presentation on Psychological Autopsies  
Strategic Planning for the year
The next Suicide Prevention Meeting is March 3, at 1:30 at the Department of Housing.

Old Business
Nothing to report.

New Business
Nothing to report.

Program Presentation
MHSARC Retreat Report Out
Presented by the MHSARC Members

The MHSARC Members had a retreat on Saturday, January 25, from 10-2 to prioritize their activities for the coming year.

Priorities for 2020
1. Commission and Community Education
2. Advocacy
3. Crisis Services
4. Fulfilling the MHSARC Mission

Commission and Community Education
- Understand the behavioral health system in order to fully partner in coming up with solutions
- Make it easier to find out resources regarding behavioral health on public media (ie making the website easier to navigate and more clear)
- Work to reduce mental health stigma, by educating the public on behavioral health at a larger level
- Presenting to the Board of Supervisors in person and detailing the annual report

Advocacy
- Advocate that we maintain the current number of beds at 3AB, as a follow up to this we as a commission would like to see an efficacious step-down system when coming out of acute care
  - The second part of this priority is key as the reduction of beds at 3AB is directly related to acute status
- Advocate for supportive housing for behavioral health clients
- Collaborate and coordinate with schools in behavioral health services, to do so the commission would like to make recommendations to the schools (County Office of Education or school boards?) regarding an appropriate spectrum of behavioral health services provided

Crisis Services
- Expand SMART program for youth
- Services provided through BHRS must include mobile services for the homeless in the field
- Develop a clean and transparent “front door” to services, while also providing equal access to services geographically across the BHRS system
  - Think of this as providing a roadmap to services that is easily accessed or provided to a client
Right size the role of law enforcement when responding to behavioral health crisis calls, which includes appropriate trainings and support
  o This came from a discussion that law enforcement needs to be less involved in crisis calls. Rather there should be a community network in place to better deal with behavioral health crisis

**Fulfilling the MHSARC Mission**

- Continue to shepherd the Cordilleras rebuild
- Partner with BHRS on Medi-Cal reform
- MHSARC to be actively involved in the selection of provider agencies at Cordilleras

**Meeting Adjourned:** The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m. by Sheila Brar

**Hall of Fame Award Ceremony**

2020 Hall of Fame Honorees
- John Butler
- Michael Lim
- Robert Ferreira
- Pamela Ward
- Michael Withers

Congratulations to this year’s Honorees!

**Next MHSARC Meeting/ MHSA Steering Committee**
March 4, 2020 from **3:30-5:30 p.m.**
225 37th Avenue, Room 100
San Mateo, CA 94403

**Next Executive Committee Meeting:** Wednesday, March 18, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.
2000 Alameda de las Pulgas,
Suite 200, Room 207, San Mateo

**PLEASE BE SURE TO CONTACT CHANTAE ROCHESTER AT 650.573.2544 IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND EITHER THE MHSARC OR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING.**

In compliance with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), auxiliary aids and services for this meeting will be provided upon request when given three-day notice. Please call 650.573.2544.