

**Community Mental Health Board of Oak Park Township
Meeting Minutes
April 16, 2024, 7:00 pm**

CALL TO ORDER

President Nancy Staples called the meeting to order at 7:01 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Present: Richard Carroll Jaimee Reggio
Gustavo Espinosa Nancy Staples
Janet Graf Ann Schreiner
Bruce McNulty Trustee Tim Thomas
Liz Raleigh

Staff Present: Cheryl Potts, Executive Director
Laura Brookes, Associate Director of Contracts & Partnerships
Melissa Lobring, Office Administrator

Also Present: N/A

AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion: Ann Schreiner moved to approve the agenda and Jaimee Reggio seconded.

Vote: A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion: Jaimee Reggio moved to approve the consent agenda as presented and Ann Schreiner seconded.

Vote: A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Agency Fundraisers/Galas & Other Events

Cheryl thanked board members for attending recent agency fundraiser events and for signing up to attend upcoming events. All scheduled galas have CMHB representatives. Additional community events to note include 1) Behavioral Health and I/DD Consortia Breakfast at the Carleton on April 23rd, 2) OPRF Chamber of Commerce Health and Wellness Fair on April 21st, and 3) Day in Our Village on June 2nd. All board members are invited to attend.

FY24 Fund Balance and Revenue Variance

Cheryl reviewed recent financial statements from the Township that project a 33% higher revenue than was estimated in the FY25 CMHB budget. The reason for this significant variance is unclear at this time. If this projection is confirmed in the financial audit later this year, it would

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double the CMHB fund balance. The Board agreed that there are significant unmet needs for services that CMHB could potentially fund if these additional funds available.

Pilot Projects for FY25

Cheryl reviewed possible pilot projects that the Board had previously identified as priorities based on the strategic plan. A Living Room in Oak Park remains a top priority, and the Board discussed benefits and possible barriers. Cheryl will follow up with various community partners to discuss the feasibility of this project, should there be funds available to invest. Jaimee also brought forth the idea of setting aside some funds to organize a teen “Shark Tank”-type event where youth could pitch mental health programs to a panel of community “judges” at the high school. CMHB staff will share this idea with school partners.

FY24 Year in Review Report

Cheryl reviewed highlights from the FY24 Year in Review operations report, noting that CMHB has accomplished a lot over the past year and is making progress on the strategic plan. Ann commended staff for operationalizing CMHB goals. Funded agencies just submitted year-end data for services, outcomes, and demographics. Cheryl will be putting together a final annual report and plans to have the report out by this summer.

ACTION ITEMS

None

INFORMATION

• **Executive Director’s Report**

- Carla Sloan is retiring from River Forest Township at the end of May. Carla has been a strong partner with CMHB, and we look forward to working with John Becvar, RFT Clerk, who will be stepping in as RFT Supervisor.
- Parent University was cancelled last week due to a speaker illness and will be rescheduled in the fall.
- CMHB is in process of contracting for FY25 grants, meeting with all funded agencies to review documents. Staff are down to the last few meetings.
- CMHB is partnering with NAMI, Thrive, Riveredge, and RFT to place weekly back-page ads in the Wednesday Journal for Mental Health Awareness Month in May.
- CMHB is wrapping up school and afterschool programming at the CRC. There is a parent webinar on ABLE accounts this Thursday, and CMHB staff are talking with PDOP about programming plans for next year. Notification about mental health wellness sessions will be included in the CRC afterschool program guardian registration packet.

• **President’s Report**

- No update.

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- **Township Report**

- Trustee Thomas gave updates from the Annual Town Meeting last week and explained the referendum process. There was a lot of activity at the meeting and discussion among residents present surrounding proposed referenda to go on the ballot about the sanctuary status of Oak Park and funding for migrants.
- Trustee Thomas shared annual Township Department reports with the group. Cheryl will provide updated numbers after final year-end data is reviewed.

ADJOURN

Motion: Ann Schreiner moved that CMHB adjourn the meeting and Gustavo Espinosa seconded.

Vote: A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,
Liz Raleigh, Secretary/Treasurer