

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD
September 15, 2009

The St. Lawrence County Community Services Board met on Tuesday, September 15, 2009 in the Human Services Complex, Canton, New York.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vicki Perrine, Chairperson; Tim Cameron; Tom Doyle; Lynne Mattot; Michele Montroy; Marsha Sawyer; James Westerfield; Carolyn White.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bonnie Barkley; Sallie Brothers; Lynette Collins; Daphne Pickert; Dr. Saleem; Sue Thomas.

OTHERS PRESENT: Ruth Ayen, Director of Community Services; Dan Dodge, Deputy Director; Donna Cole, Recording Secretary.

CALL TO ORDER

Ms Perrine, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by L. Mattot, seconded by M. Sawyer and unanimously carried, the minutes of the May 26, 2009 and June 16, 2009 meetings were accepted as presented.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Mental Health Subcommittee Report –June, 2009: Ms Ayen reported that the Mental Health Subcommittee last met on September 1, 2009. Clinic restructuring was discussed. The clinic is assessing the possible impact of the rate reduction and indigent care. Ms Ayen also reported on the formation of a suicide awareness coalition by various county stakeholders including members from hospice, clergy, school systems, college counseling centers, Reachout, Community Services and Public Health. To start the community education, they are planning suicide awareness forums in major population centers in the county.

Alcohol/Substance Abuse Subcommittee – June 2009: Ms Ayen reported that the Alcohol/Substance Abuse Subcommittee last met on September 3, 2009. Ms Ayen reported that there has been no new budget impact information received. Everyone is tightening their belts and, so far, maintaining services. The Collocation Project grant is scheduled to end December 31, 2009. It has been a valuable process, but due to budget deficits continuation is not likely. Both Ogdensburg and Massena have settled into their new locations.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms Ayen reported that the search is still open for Supervisor of Expanded Children's Services. A Safe Schools/Healthy Students counselor has been hired to the Brasher Falls and Potsdam schools. The Lois Bell account has increased \$4,900 since the previous quarter. The Annual Staff

Recognition Dinner will be at the Lobster House in Norwood on October 2. The County is currently reviewing department budgets to determine further reductions.

OLD BUSINESS

2009-2010 Budget Implications: No new information.

Mental Health Clinic Restructuring/COPS Reductions Update: Mr. Dodge has been trying to get a better understanding of the restructuring proposal. He is still waiting for responses to questions asked. The Draft proposal has not yet been finalized. January 1 may not be a realistic goal for the implementation of this plan. COPS reductions and the implementation of Clinic Restructuring are to begin simultaneously.

NEW BUSINESS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms Mattot reported that AMI is planning mental health awareness walks for Wednesday, October 7th and Friday, October 9th. AMI has also nominated Assemblywoman Deirdre Scozaffava to receive a New York State AMI award as a person who has contributed to consumers and family members. She has awarded St. Lawrence County AMI grants in 2007 for \$4,000 and in 2008 for \$5,000.

Ms White announced that there will be a 2.5 mile recovery walk on October 11th sponsored by Seaway Valley Prevention Council and others.

ADJOURNMENT/NEXT MEETING

Upon motion duly made, the meeting was adjourned at 4:45. Next meeting October 20.

Donna Cole, Recording Secretary