

**MINUTES – APPROVED**  
**December 20, 2018**

**MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD**

October 18, 2018

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

1400 Emeline Avenue, Room 206, Santa Cruz, CA

**Present:** Bek Phillips, Hugh McCormick, Jodie Wells, Kathleen Avraham, Lynda Kaufmann, Rebekah Mills, Xaloc Cabanes, Supervisor Greg Caput

**Excused Absence:** Aimee Escalante

**Unexcused Absence:** 0

1. Public Comments

- Fox Sloan, Family & Child Rights Advocate  
Group had a table at the Twin Lakes Mental Health Conference; CPS Dependency & Family Divorce Custody groups merged to create the System Induced Trauma Survivors (SITS)
- Tracy Kennedy – thanked the Mental Health Advisory Board for their effort and support during the whole Second Story process
- Lynda Leigh, Volunteer Housing Navigator for 5 years  
Disheartened by the closure of Second Story with no discussion until the 11<sup>th</sup> hour; hope that transparency will be emphasized so that the community can be better informed, and able to counter any possible disruption of services which benefit the homeless experiencing mental health issues. Requesting that future decisions made between agencies and the behavioral health system be brought to the Mental Health Advisory Board for input and discussion without delay
- John Dietz – Since the public came forward to save Second Story, the public is owed insight into how the money provided by private citizens are to be managed by the County and the Service Providers. The MHAB has the responsibility to advise the Board of Supervisors that the Second Story refunding plan needs exposure, and the public requests disclosure of the business plan including how the Second Story Respite House will be sustained.
- Closure of River Street Camp - asking if the Mental Health Advisory Board would be interested in writing a letter to request keeping River Street Camp open through December and allow different agencies to apply for that money so they could use it to continue the winter shelter

2. Approved meeting minutes for September 20, 2018

Motion by Lynda Kaufmann to approve MHAB minutes for September 20, 2018. Second by Kate Avraham.

AYES: Bek Phillips, Hugh McCormick, Jodie Wells, Kathleen Avraham, Lynda Kaufmann, Rebekah Mills, Xaloc Cabanes, Supervisor Greg Caput

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: Aimee Escalante

Approved meeting minutes for September 27, 2018

Motion by Bek Phillips to approve MHAB minutes for September 27, 2018. Second by Rebekah Mills.

AYES: Bek Phillips, Hugh McCormick, Jodie Wells, Kathleen Avraham, Lynda Kaufmann, Rebekah Mills, Xaloc Cabanes, Supervisor Greg Caput

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: Aimee Escalante

3. Standing Board of Supervisors (BOS) report, Supervisor Greg Caput:
  - Second Story – donation good news; now have time to look at the sustainability of the program; Health Services Agency will oversee Second Story
  - Mental Health facility – grand opening soon; big asset to South County
4. Standing Behavioral Health (BH) Directors report, Erik Riera:
  - Second Story – the County is working with Encompass to help develop a sustainability plan. The County is continuing its efforts to support an expansion of the community-based peer model and will be releasing an RFP for those services this winter.
  - Quarterly Stakeholder Meetings – were very productive and successful; had a good turnout for all 3 meetings. Cassandra Eslami is in the process of writing up a summary report from the meetings and would be happy to share with the Mental Health Advisory Board. The next round of Stakeholder meetings focused around a particular topic area will be sometime late December, early January.
  - Watsonville Behavioral Health Office Building -New date for the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony: November 7, 2018, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Invitation extended to the Mental Health Advisory Board to attend the ribbon cutting ceremony.
5. Ad Hoc Committee and Standing Committee Reports:
  - a. Jail Committee Report
    - Revised mission and vision statements; will be forwarded to the Mental Health Advisory Board soon
    - Moving forward on the following topics:
      - Background information - demographics of people in jail with mental health needs
      - Available resources
      - Communication (written material) for people who have family/friends in jail; working with Pam Rogers-Wyman; money available for Digital Nest to produce a folder/packet to distribute
    - Next meeting in December
  - b. Community Engagement Committee Report
    - Mental Health Conference at Twin Lakes, October 11-13, 2018. Answered several questions and concerns; had robust conversations about cultural competency and cultural sensitivity and there is a feeling that it is not as present as it should be. Questions from the conference will be shared with the Board for review and discussion at the next regular meeting
  - c. MHSA Advisory Committee – no report  
MHSOAC meeting will be in November, report back to the MHAB in December
  - d. Membership Committee - Aimee Escalante and Jodie Wells  
The members of the Board voted to appoint Erika Miranda Bartlett and Carolina Profeta as At-Large Members.
  - e. Site Visit Committee – no update  
Suggestion to visit Second Story as a Board. Hugh McCormick to coordinate date/time with Adrian from Second Story

6. Unfinished Business

a. Calendar of MHAB Members Presentation Topics

- December – Bek Phillips, Topic: Suicide
- January – Jodie Wells, Topic: Supported employment
- February – Lynda Kaufmann, Topic: Evidence based practices
- March – Rebekah Mills, Topic: Peer employment in mental health services
- April – Kate Avraham, Topic: Depression and treatment options
- May – Aimee Escalante, Topic: Children’s mental health
- June – Xaloc Cabanes, Topic: School informed services
- July – presentation from At-Large Member
- August – presentation from At-Large Member

7. New Business / Future Agenda Items

a. 2019 Mental Health Advisory Board Meeting Locations

- January – 1400 Emeline, Santa Cruz
- February – 1400 Emeline, Santa Cruz
- March – Watsonville location
- April – 1400 Emeline, Santa Cruz
- May – 1400 Emeline, Santa Cruz
- June – San Lorenzo Valley High School Community Room
- July – 1400 Emeline, Santa Cruz
- August – 1400 Emeline, Santa Cruz
- September – Watsonville location
- October – 1400 Emeline, Santa Cruz
- November – no meeting
- December – San Lorenzo Valley High School Community Room

b. Letter to the Board of Supervisors, copying Mimi Hall and Erik Riera

Motion by Jodie Wells to forward the revised letter to the Board of Supervisors. Second by Supervisor Greg Caput.

AYES: Bek Phillips, Hugh McCormick, Jodie Wells, Kathleen Avraham, Lynda Kaufmann, Rebekah Mills, Xaloc Cabanes, Supervisor Greg Caput

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: Aimee Escalante

Motion by Jodie Wells to send a thank you letter to the anonymous donor for Second Story. Second by Lynda Kaufmann.

AYES: Bek Phillips, Hugh McCormick, Jodie Wells, Kathleen Avraham, Lynda Kaufmann, Rebekah Mills, Xaloc Cabanes, Supervisor Greg Caput

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: Aimee Escalante

Motion to adjourn made by Bek Phillips. Second by Jodie Wells. Meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.