Berkeley/Albany Mental Health Commission
Minutes

North Berkeley Senior Center
1901 Hearst Ave.
Workshop B

December 18, 2014 at 7:00 pm

Members of the Public Present: Donald Frazier, Ann Hawkins, Rita Maran, Allan Maris, Jonah Markowitz, Louis Saechao

Staff Present: Carol Patterson

1. Call to Order at 7:00 pm
Commissioners Present: Jennifer Fazio, Shelby Heda, Paul Kealoha-Blake (Chair), Carole Marasovic, Jean Marie Hervé Michel, Jr, Shirley Posey (left at 8:47 pm), Cameron Silverberg.
Commissioners Absent: Jesse Arreguin, Jeffrey Davis, Nadine Dixon, Bart Grossman, Judy Kerr.

2. Preliminary Matters
A. Approval of October 30, 2014 Agenda
M/S/C (Marasovic, Michel) Move to approve the December 18, 2014 Agenda.
Ayes: Fazio, Heda, Kealoha-Blake, Marasovic, Michel, Posey, Silverberg; Noes: None; Abstentions: None; Absent: Arreguin, Davis, Dixon, Grossman, Kerr.

B. Public Comment
One member of the public commented on the Peace and Justice Commission’s Subcommittee on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

C. Approval of the October 30, 2014 minutes
M/S/F (Heda, Marasovic) Move to approve the October 30, 2014 minutes with addition of “to be discussed at the next meeting” to the Chair/Vice Chair Report.
Ayes: Heda, Kealoha-Blake, Marasovic, Michel, Posey, Silverberg; Noes: None; Abstentions: Fazio (was absent for the October meeting); Absent: Arreguin, Davis, Dixon, Grossman, Kerr.

D. Staff Updates
i. Steven Grolnic-McClurg, the mental Health Manager could not attend tonight’s meeting due to a previous commitment, he would like to have the Police dept. to present at the January meeting about suicide statistics.
ii. The first Mental Health First Aid training certified 16 Mental Health First Aiders. The next training is scheduled for February 5 & 6, 2015.
iv. The Berkeley Housing Trust Fund is seeking input on their Guidelines. They are willing to extend their deadline if the Commission wants to discuss and comment at the January Commission meeting.
v. Due to clarification on the role of the Mental Health Commission, the Commission will need to amend its mission statement.
vi. The Commission needs to respond to the Community Health Commission’s request for input on HR 3717.
vii. Peace and Justice Commission is requesting input on their proposed resolution regarding the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

3. Presentation from BOSS (Building Opportunities for Self Sufficiency) on the Homeless Outreach program – Donald Frazier and Aimee Armata. Mr. Frazier and Ms Armata presented an overview of the new Homeless Outreach Team and fielded questions from the Commission and one member of the public.

4. Action Item: Approval of 2015 Commission meeting dates
M/S/C (Marasovic, Michel) Move to approve the proposed 2015 meeting schedule.
Ayes: Fazio, Heda, Kealoha-Blake, Marasovic, Michel, Posey, Silverberg; Noes: None; Abstentions: None; Absent: Arreguin, Davis, Dixon, Grossman, Kerr.

5. Action Item: Approval of Commission By-Laws
Tabled to next meeting so that the draft By-Laws can be updated.

6. Role of the Mental Health Commission
The Secretary clarified the role of the Commission with respect to Alameda County Behavioral Health, the City of Albany, other outside agencies, Berkeley City Council and the Mental Health Division.

7. Possible Action Item: Recommendations to City Council on Improving Services to person in mental health crisis
Recommendations might include: endorsing the Mental Health manager’s recommendations, Peer Run Respite in or near Berkeley, improving suicide and crisis statistics, 24/7 Mobile Crisis, wider accessibility to BMH services, warm lines.

8. Possible Action item: Response to Community Health Commission on HR 3717 Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act
One member of the public commented on HR 3717.

9. Agenda items for January meeting – Tabled due to lack of time.

10. Subcommittee Reports – Tabled due to lack of time.

11. Liaison Reports – Tabled due to lack of time.

12. Announcements – Tabled due to lack of time.

13. Adjournment at 9:03 pm.

Minutes submitted by: ____________________________
Carol Patterson, Commission Secretary