



**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION  
JUNE 14, 2016 – 3:30 P.M.**

The Mental Health Commission met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, June 14, 2016 at 3:32 p.m. in the Administration Building, 1717 N. Indian Hill Blvd. # B, Claremont, California.

**CALL TO ORDER** Vice-Chair Watson called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m.

**ROLL CALL** A visual roll call was taken.

**PRESENT:** Toni L. Watson, Vice-Chair  
Cheryl Berezny  
Arny Bloom  
Chuck Leeb, Ph.D.  
Donald R. Perez  
Twila L. Stephens  
Davetta Williams

**ABSENT:** Michael Olivieri

**STAFF:** Toni Navarro, Executive Director  
Rimmi Hundal, Director of MHSA and Ethnic Services  
Donald Pruyne, Housing Project Manager  
Mica Olmos, JPA Administrator/Clerk

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MAY 18, 2016 GOVERNING BOARD/MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION JOINT MEETING & MHSA ANNUAL PUBLIC HEARING**

There being no comment, Governing Board Liaison Leeb moved, and Commissioner Berezny seconded, to approve the Minutes of the Joint Meeting of the Mental Health Commission/ Governing Board and MHSA Annual Public Hearing of May 18, 2016. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Commissioners Berezny, Bloom, Leeb, Stephens, and Williams; and Vice-Chair Watson. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: Commissioner Perez. ABSENT: Commissioner Olivieri.

**II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF THE MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION WHEN A VACANCY OCCURS**

Executive Director Navarro announced that Chair Sylvia Whitlock, Ph.D. had submitted her membership resignation from Tri-City's Mental Health Commission on Monday, June 6, 2016, to be effective immediately.

Vice-Chair Watson declared that a vacancy existed on the Commission and an election of officers was conducted to fill the vacant position of the Chair; therefore, she expressed desire to serve as the Commission Chair; and there being no other nominations for the Office of Chair, Toni L. Watson was appointed Chair to the Mental Health Commission unanimously by the following vote: AYES: Commissioners Berezny, Bloom, Leeb, Perez, Stephens, and Williams; and Vice-Chair Watson. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Commissioner Olivieri.

Commissioner Berezny then nominated Donald R. Perez to serve as Vice-Chair to the Mental Health Commission; and Commissioner Stephens expressed desire to serve as the Vice-Chair. Since the Vice-Chair office had more than one nominee, the election was carried out by secret and written ballot. The motion to appoint Donald R. Perez as Vice-Chair to the Mental Health Commission was carried by the majority of the member vote.

Executive Director Navarro announced that Staff is actively recruiting for two memberships to the Mental Health Commission and current Members were encouraged to promote its membership.

### **III. PRESENTATION**

Executive Director provided an update of the “No Place Like Home’ (NPLH) Initiative which was authored by Senator Kevin DeLeon and proposes to take 7% of MHSA allocations to leverage a 2 billion bond to address homelessness in the State of California. She shared the counties’ concerns relating to the intention of MSHA funding and the proposed usage. She reported that CBHDA had addressed the counties’ concerns before the final trail bill was published; however, when it was finalized, the trail bill did not include CBHDA recommendations such as changing it from a competitive grant process to a more equitable process, that housing dollars for MHSA be allowed to cover rental subsidies, and not be 7% static reduction of MHSA allocations considering revenue fluctuations, and that it had only included the recommendation about using housing funding specified for individuals with severe persistent mental illness who meet MHSA criteria and are homeless or at-risk of homelessness; noting, that a vote would take place on Wednesday, June 15th, and in anticipation of this, some talking points as well as some e-mail addresses of local officials were e-mailed a week ago to the Governing Board and the Commission.

Discussion ensued regarding how NPLH will impact Tri-City’s service delivery, which will limit growth in services to meet the increase in demand for services; since NPLH is about creating housing, this will result in more demand for services; however, there is no funding allocated for services under NPLH.

Executive Director Navarro then indicated that she will be making presentations to local elected officials regarding how Tri-City MHSA funding is spent and will invite the Governing Board to join in those meetings; and pointed out she wants to inform elected officials what Tri-City does, how staff does it, and what is needed, so that they continue to advocate for Tri-City.

She then announced that on July 7th, a Stakeholder meeting will take place to seek their help in putting together an interim annual update to discuss alternatives and solutions addressing homelessness and the increase in demand for FSP programming. Discussion ensued regarding homelessness and its connection with mental illness.

#### **IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

Executive Director Navarro provided a staffing report.

Don Pruyn, Housing Project Manager, announced that the Cedar Springs project still has not received its Certificate of Occupancy; and explained some of housing restrictions erroneously placed on Tri-City's MHSA TAY units; however, the confusion has been resolved and Tri-City now has full access to its units.

Discussion ensued regarding the circumstances under which Tri-City entered into the Cedars Springs project and how it was developed in conjunction with an MOU that clearly stated that any funding cannot supersede or intervene with Tri-City's MHSA funding requirements.

Housing Project Manager Pruyn then stated that 19 units at the Parkside Family Apartments have been filled and the rest are expected to be filled soon; that the Holt Family Apartment Project by Clifford Beers Housing is under construction; that the rehabilitation project at the Claremont site has been completed and tenants will move in by mid-July, noting that there are discussions with the City of Claremont for a bigger housing project to be developed at the site which will result in 8 units for Tri-City, and that the developer is currently exploring all options available for the project that will best make financial sense.

Executive Director Navarro talked about the Clinic easement and stated that there is a purchase agreement being developed and will be resolved within the next 60 days, therefore, staff has begun discussion of the parking lot expansion at 2008 N. Garey Avenue and the upgrades to the TCG garden according to the MHSA Annual Update.

#### **COMMISSION ITEMS AND REPORTS**

Executive Director Navarro announced that she, along with other staff members, will be attending a neighborhood watch meeting being held at the Lincoln Park in Pomona to discuss homelessness and how Tri-City might be able to assist with this population.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

At 4:29 p.m., on consensus of the Mental Health Commission its meeting of June 14, 2016 was adjourned. The next Regular Meeting of the Mental Health Commission will be held on **Tuesday, July 12, 2016, at 3:30 p.m.** in the Administration Building, 1717 North Indian Hill Boulevard #B, Claremont, California.



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Micaela P. Olmos, JPA Administrator/Clerk