

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MILTON TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD

OCTOBER 26, 2021

The regular meeting of the Milton Township Community Mental Health Board was called to order by Shannon Hartnett, President of Milton Township Community Mental Health Board at 6:30pm Tuesday, October 26th, 2021 at the Milton Town Hall, 1492 N. Main Street, Wheaton, Illinois.

Present were the following members:

Shannon Hartnett (President)

Kara Murphy (Secretary)

Christine Evans

Drew Ellis

Absent: Jae Kwon, Stephanie Linares-Hood and Rev. James Shannon

Call to Order – Roll Call: President Hartnett called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance: President Hartnett led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: President Hartnett asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Member Ellis motioned and Secretary Murphy seconded the motion. Secretary Murphy completed a roll call vote. All present voted in favor. No opposition or abstentions. The meeting minutes from the September 27, 2021 meeting were approved.

Public Comment:

- Susan Sperry, Executive Director World Relief Chicagoland spoke about the World Relief Program and the work they do for refugees in Milton Township and surrounding area. They have serviced over 1,000 immigrants and refugees with mental health issues in the surrounding area, many in Milton Township. Many families come to the US with post traumatic stress and trauma. Treatment allows their families to acclimate and thrive.
- Erica Nelson thanked the mental health board and discussed the upcoming Levy, PTELL (Property Tax Extension Limitation Law), the budget and the needs of the community based. She recommended meaningful funding to make a significant impact on the community and mental health. The first year Levy amount is important because it lays the foundation/groundwork for monies in the future, given PTELL limitations.

The Board discussed the recent visit/meeting with Hanover Township Mental Health board, attended by Members Hartnett, Murphy, and Ellis as well as Supervisor Monino, Trustee Milinko and staff person Andrea Ziemba. It was suggested that Hanover Township offered a strong historical context and practical foundation for Milton Township to duplicate, adjusting the Milton model of funding to the needs of our Township. President Hartnett acknowledged how generous the Hanover Township team was with their time and wisdom and noted their willingness to meet with Milton Township representatives again in the future. Member Ellis stated that the visit was enlightening and the tenure of the Hanover Township Mental Health Board (in operation since 1979) suggests they will be a great resource as this board evolves.

Old Business:

Community Needs Assessment: Secretary Murphy offered background about Impact DuPage, a collective impact coalition and data repository with backbone support through DuPage County Health Department. She detailed the various components of their ongoing three three-year planning process suggesting that rather than needing to collect all new data, Milton Township can utilize existing research, saving money and time. Secretary Murphy suggested Board could instead focus on engaging those residents and leaders with subject matter expertise and lived experience, getting the community involved and working to better understand existing gaps and needs. One model could involve dedicated meetings on the topic of substance use disorder, mental health, and services for adults and children with special needs. Board discussed merits of special meeting vs. inclusion in regular meetings and wish for informality to promote discussion. This process will require a good deal of board time and commitment. The importance of the levy was discussed, and the need to invest time in learning more about community needs and wishes.

The board reviewed some of the indicators/data available through the Impact DuPage Website specific to behavioral health and services for individuals with disabilities. Secretary Murphy suggested that rather than including all available data in a community needs assessment, the board might focus on indicators where the township or county performed less favorably as compared to state or national data, or where the trendline was negative. Examples of areas where DuPage and Milton Township Communities might focus given data include rates of adult and adolescent substance use disorder and rates of adolescent suicide, all exacerbated by COVID-19. Board also noted concerns regarding social isolation and seniors. There was a 23% increase in drug overdoses in DuPage County in the first six months of 2020 thought to be linked to the pandemic.

New Business:

President Hartnett provided the board with a draft copy of a document commemorating Year 1 Tasks and timelines – President Hartnett noted that the work to be performed in preparation for accepting grant applications, including in determining funding philosophy, developing applications, and building processes for managing application submission and review, was significant. It was suggested that Board might wish to establish committees to accomplish the work. Board discussed the earliest dates to award funds to providers to occur in summer or early fall 2022.

Open Meetings Act (OMA): Secretary Murphy noted that an appointed 708 Board would typically be required to take an OMA training designated by the state. The training is not currently available, and due to the pandemic, the state has waived the requirement for the time being. However, Secretary Murphy noted that the board was still obligated to follow the rules of OMA. Examples of obligations included posting meeting agendas with required notice and posting approved meeting minutes within required timing after approval. Secretary Murphy referenced a recorded webinar/training put forth through the Illinois Municipal League that had been emailed to all of the board members and impressed upon the board the need to become familiar with the Open Meetings Act Guidelines.

President Hartnett launched a discussion of the Milton Township 708 Board Levy, which the board was recently informed needed to be recommended to the Township in advance of a meeting scheduled the following week. Board discussed the process of making a recommendation. It was proposed that the recommended levy might be broken into amounts needed to support funding awards and separately the dollars required to provide administrative oversight and support. Secretary Murphy recommended that existing needs and data, along with size of community tax base and comparable review of other metro area

708 boards supported a levy including \$1M in funding awards. Board discussed levies of Bloomingdale Township, Hanover Township and others. The board noted that funds might be awarded for different types of projects, including annual awards, capital needs, education and training, etc. Discussion shifted to costs associated with operating 708 Board. President Hartnett referenced need for social media, promotion, new website, IT, staffing, administrative costs (to township), legal fees, grants management tools, supplies. Discussion ensued about the amount the board could anticipate in overhead. Typical overhead ranged from 10-30%. Board members suggested that overhead of 12-15% was conservative and appropriate to the scale of the project. Secretary Murphy asked if the board could make a motion including a range for administrative costs pending determination of some costs still to be determined. Supervisor Monino answered from the floor in the affirmative.

Discussion complete, President Hartnett asked for a motion. Secretary Murphy motioned that the board recommend a 708 Mental Health Levy in the amount of 1M plus administrative costs of 12-15% in addition. Christine Evans seconded the motion. Secretary Murphy completed roll call. All members present voted "aye". No members voted against or abstained. The motion passed.

President Hartnett asked for a motion for adjournment – Member Ellis moved, seconded by Secretary Murphy. On a voice vote, all Members voted "aye." The Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:44 PM.

Printed Name of Signatory

Signature

Date