

Hanover Township Mental Health Board Minutes
February 27, 2024

The meeting was called to order by Chair Kathy Biesiadecki at 6:32 pm.

Roll Call: Mary Jane Garvey, Trustee Denise Noyola, Kristen Cruthers, Kathy Biesiadecki, Faiza Rahim, Michelle Esquivel (left at 8:27). Also in attendance, Mental Health Board Manager Amanda Teachout, and Deputy Township Administrator Kristin Vana.

Approval of the Agenda: Ms. Garvey moved to approve the agenda and Ms. Cruthers seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Public Comment: None.

Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of January 23, 2024: Ms. Rahim moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of January 23, 2024 and Ms. Esquivel seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Presentations: Mary Powers of Community Alternatives Unlimited presented the Capital Funding Request in the amount of \$18,859.62. She explained that new laptops would allow the staff to efficiently conduct home visits and sign Township residents up for the PUNS list at events. Ms. Biesiadecki expressed concern regarding the consumable items in the request. Ms. Esquivel asked about how many staff would be receiving new equipment. Ms. Powers stated that all 12 staff assigned to Hanover Township would receive the new equipment if the funds were awarded.

Linda Bradford-Foster and Marva Boddie of Living Daylight addressed the Board to present their Challenge Funding request in the amount of \$25,000. Ms. Foster shared that the funding would be used to connect youth with seniors and provide training and incentives. Ms. Biesiadecki expressed concern about duplication of services. She explained that tax dollars already fund senior programming and youth programming. Ms. Cruthers expressed concerns regarding the budget. Ms. Biesiadecki concurred and brought forward other concerns regarding the budget presented. Ms. Boddie explained that there is value in providing services to people of all ethnicities.

Carrie Estrada presented a Challenge Funding request to the Board in the amount of \$25,000. She explained that Northwest Center Against Sexual Assault (NWCASA) had done some leadership restructuring and had discovered they need to allocate more resources to community outreach. This funding would allow NWCASA to dedicate staff directly to outreach within Hanover Township.

Chair Biesiadecki moved to recess the meeting to shelter safely in the lower level of the Senior Center due to the tornado siren alarm at 7:19. The Board concurred. Chair Biesiadecki called the meeting back to order at 8:02 pm.

Deputy Administrator Kristin Vana presented the Mental Health Housing Request in the amount of \$32,500. She shared the updates at Hanover Landing and that the Disability Services Coordinator had met with all 39 residents of Hanover Landing. She also shared some of the activities that were organized, and the donations received. Ms. Garvey asked if the 4% raise proposed in the application was sufficient and Ms. Vana felt positive about that amount.

Approval of Financial Statements December 2023: Ms. Garvey moved to approve the Financial Statements of December of 2023 and Trustee Noyola seconded. Ms. Cruthers asked for clarification of a line item. A roll call occurred, and the motion passed.

Ms. Biesiadecki	Yes	Ms. Cruthers	Yes	Ms. Rahim	Yes
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Ms. Garvey	Yes	Ms. Noyola	Yes	Ms. Esquivel	Yes
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Manager's Report: Manager Teachout presented and reviewed the Manager's Report. She highlighted the upcoming Mental Health Resource Fair as a part of the Strategic Plan. She also highlighted the Human Services Coordinating Council meeting. Manager Teachout also shared her discussion with Youth and Family Services regarding getting signed up to teach Mental Health First Aid.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

Staff Development Funding Request-Clearbrook: Ms. Rahim moved to consider the Staff Development Funding Request from Clearbrook in the amount of \$3,000 and Ms. Cruthers seconded the motion. Ms. Biesiadecki noted that the training had already taken place. Manager Teachout explained that the request came in after Clearbrook's Site Visit, likely because of being encouraged to apply. Ms. Biesiadecki asked for a roll call. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Biesiadecki	Yes	Ms. Cruthers	Yes	Ms. Rahim	Yes
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Ms. Garvey	Yes	Ms. Noyola	Yes	Ms. Esquivel	Yes
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Challenge Funding Requests

Living Daylight-Ms. Rahim moved to consider Living Daylight's Challenge Funding Request in the amount of \$25,000 and Trustee Noyola seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Ms. Biesiadecki stated that she was uncomfortable funding a program that could be accomplished at the Township for much less funding. She felt it was a duplication of services, from which the Mental Health Board steers away. Ms. Biesiadecki stated she felt the program could be accomplished by connecting Living Daylight with Aging Services. Ms. Cruthers stated that she felt that she could not accurately assess where the funding would be spent. The presentation mentioned outside activities that are not included in the budget, like going to the movies. In the application, funding went to staffing, but staffing was also not in the budget. Ms. Biesiadecki requested a roll call. The motion was unanimously denied.

Ms. Biesiadecki	No	Ms. Cruthers	No	Ms. Rahim	No
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Ms. Garvey	No	Ms. Noyola	No	Ms. Esquivel	No
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Northwest Center Against Sexual Assault-Ms. Garvey moved to consider Northwest Center Against Sexual Assault's Challenge request in the amount of \$25,000 and Trustee Noyola seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Ms. Biesiadecki requested a roll call. The motion passed.

Ms. Biesiadecki	Yes	Ms. Cruthers	Yes	Ms. Rahim	Yes
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Ms. Garvey Yes Ms. Noyola Yes Ms. Esquivel Yes

Advanced Preschool- Upon further review, it was determined that Advanced Preschool did not qualify for Mental Health Board funding due to lack of non-profit status.

Capital Funding Requests-Ms. Cruthers moved to consider Clearbrook's Capital Funding Request in the amount of \$3,089 and Ms. Rahim seconded the motion. Ms. Cruthers noted that the amount requested was very reasonable for the desired equipment. The Board concurred. Ms. Biesiadecki requested a roll call. The motion passed.

Ms. Biesiadecki Yes Ms. Cruthers Yes Ms. Rahim Yes

Ms. Garvey Yes Ms. Noyola Yes Ms. Esquivel Yes

Community Alternatives Unlimited-Ms. Garvey moved to consider Community Alternatives Unlimited Capital request in the amount of \$18,859.62 and Ms. Rahim seconded the motion. Ms. Esquivel stated that she is uncomfortable with the full amount based on the percentage of Township residents served. Ms. Cruthers noted that some items in the budget were consumables and could be removed. Ms. Cruthers moved to amend the motion to be considered in the amount of \$15,600 and Ms. Rahim seconded the motion. The motion to amend the initial motion passed.

Ms. Biesiadecki Yes Ms. Cruthers Yes Ms. Rahim Yes

Ms. Garvey Yes Ms. Noyola Yes

Ms. Garvey moved to approve Community Alternatives Unlimited Capital Request in the amount of \$15,600 and Ms. Rahim seconded. Ms. Biesiadecki requested a roll call and the motion passed.

Ms. Biesiadecki Yes Ms. Cruthers Yes Ms. Rahim Yes

Ms. Garvey Yes Ms. Noyola Yes

Maryville-Maryville chose to withdraw this application and resubmit after the new fiscal year.

Mental Health Housing-Trustee Noyola moved to consider the Mental Health Housing Funding Request in the amount of \$32,500 and Ms. Garvey seconded the motion. Ms. Biesiadecki shared about her visit to Hanover Landing and asked for a roll call. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Biesiadecki Yes Ms. Cruthers Yes Ms. Rahim Yes

Ms. Garvey Yes Ms. Noyola Yes

Consideration of FY25 Budget Amendment: Deputy Administrator Vana shared that the Township Finance Committee felt the revenue line item on the Mental Health Board budget should more accurately reflect the tax levy. Ms. Garvey moved to adopt the amended Fiscal Year 25 Budget as presented and Ms. Fahim seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Biesiadecki Yes

Ms. Cruthers Yes

Ms. Rahim Yes

Ms. Garvey Yes

Ms. Noyola Yes

Planning and By-laws Committee Update: As the Committee chair, Ms. Rahim shared that the Committee is working to amend the by-laws to reflect the recent changes in the Illinois Open Meetings Act and the Illinois Community Mental Health Act.

Site Visit Update: Manager Teachout shared about the Site Visit to Clearbrook's Hunter's Ridge CILA home. She explained that the home had adjusted to a six bedroom, allowing each resident their own room. Most of the men were independent and living their lives with much autonomy. They seemed to have good relationships with the staff and the neighbors.

Executive Session: Ms. Rahim moved to go into executive session pursuant to paragraph 2(c)1 (Personnel) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act. Trustee Noyola seconded the motion. Ms. Biesiadecki called for a roll call vote. Motion was approved.

Board adjourned to Executive Session at 8:41 p.m.

Chair called the meeting back to order at 8:50 p.m.

Other Business: Manager Teachout shared with the Board the next Mental Health Board meeting will be in the Lower Level of the Senior Center. Manager Teachout also shared that fellow Board Member Mr. Steichmann is recovering from surgery and the Board sent him a "get well" gift. The Board was also informed of the April 8th Mental Health Fair at the Senior Center.

Adjournment: Ms. Rahim moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 pm and Ms. Garvey seconded. The motion passed.