Alamance/Caswell Community Consumer & Family Advisory Committee
MEETING MINUTES

Date: July 25, 2017
Time: 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Location: 2929 Crouse Lane, Burlington, NC

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<th>COMMITTEE MEMBERS</th>
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<td><strong>NAME</strong></td>
<td><strong>PRESENT</strong></td>
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<td>Jeanette Williamson, Chair</td>
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<td>Stacey Inman</td>
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<td>Jeannie Irby, Chair-Elect</td>
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<td>Heart Foxworth</td>
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<td>Lea Ottinger</td>
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<td>Stacey Harward</td>
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<td>Bob Crayton</td>
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<td>Melissa Madden</td>
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1. Welcome & Overview

Jeanette Williamson called the meeting to order at 6:00pm for a continuation of the regular bi-monthly meeting of the AC CFAC was held on Wednesday, August 7, 2017, at 6 p.m. at the Elon U. Community Engagement Center on 217 E. Davis Street, Burlington, the meeting was opened with a quorum of present members. Jeanette welcomed all visitors and everyone introduced themselves.

Jeanette addressed two issues: 1) the resignation of Alison Fletcher was received and accepted by the AC CFAC Chairperson effective on July 24, 2017 and her reason was religious. 2) Patty Thompson was the Chairperson in May when she was informed of a conflict with FINAL CIH CFAC By-laws and she confirmed she has a family member employed with the LME/MCO. We did not know of her intentions for attending the July 25, 2017 meeting as a guest for public comments and she was rude and disrespectful to the members and liaisons present and her disruptive behavior. She relinquished her position as Chairperson turning the meeting over to Jeanette Williamson.

A motion was properly made, seconded and approved unanimously, irrespective of her behavior IAW the FINAL CIH CFAC By-laws, Article 5, Section 2 Membership Eligibility for the removal of Patty Thompson from AC CFAC effective immediately. Patty Thompson is no longer a member of AC CFAC.
2. Consent Agenda / Minutes Approval

The agenda was accepted without change. The minutes for May 23, 2017 were approved with no changes on a motion by Bob Crayton, seconded by Lea Ottinger and approved unanimously.

3. Old Business

Facilitated discussion about the suggested AC-OPC CFAC merger with concerns. 1) meeting location, Burlington vs. Chapel Hill. 2) we meet on different days and dates. 3) and what would the name be? 4) AC & OPC losing their individuality +/- or autonomy. Jeanette shared that other boards have merged being called the Central Community Board.

Heart reported that OPC CFAC is not officially meeting on August 8, 2017 and that it was a Planning meeting for their PSW and had requested it be a “closed” meeting which they can do outside of official meetings in alternate months. OPC has requested to do the last Annual PSW on September 22, 2017 by themselves in celebration of 13 years and look forward to collaboration going forward. Heart shared it’s an end of an era and OPC members are feeling very protective and as a celebration of their tradition. Heart thanked us for respecting their request that it’s very important to them. OPC is definitely onboard and is why they requested to do PSW because next they’re hoping we’ll be together. They also need opportunity to meet as an individual group.

Suggested merger will not take place. What needs to happen is decision to be made. We know the suggested merger was going to be probationary for one year as approved by the Central Community Board and to be revisited. Decision could have been more effective. Reason why encouraging the suggested merger is that every other LME/MCO has done away with local CFACs and it’s important to Cardinal Innovations to give us a voice we deserve and their intention is to maintain that local presence as much as possible knowing that potential changes in the healthcare system that it end up being mandated that we not have one. Having us to decide what to do now rather than being told by another entity that may come in was Cardinal Innovations’ purpose to see if that would work. It’s nothing CIH has mandated and it’s not a certainty.

Heart shared positives with increased budgetary allocation and increased membership. Because of level of membership, AC has 5 and OPC has 9 members. Can be potentially unifying event for both? Stacey shared that it works well for Triad that they have four counties and CenterPoint came into Cardinal Innovations for numbers to give them strength and there’s strength in numbers.

OPC will have a facilitated discussion with Kelly Friedlander to flush out questions with pros and cons. That is happening and Heart hopes once that takes place we will have a joint meeting after September for her goal. Heart took notes on our preferences and concerns to facilitate communication and would love to come together in September not putting it off anymore helping us make a decision for an outcome that works for us. If we wanted to like the Community Boards (CBs), we would reserve the right to go back that is really a safe option to see how it goes and if it doesn’t work.

What would the budget look like if and when we would merge? We would be operating on same budgets. Shared officers shall be jointly for AC and OPC to be fair to both members and groups. We should have officers in place. Board representation has not changed, therefore Executive CFAC representation should not change.

Dates to meet, OPC meets 2nd Thursday and AC meets the 4th Tuesday. Do we have a preference? We are open to collaboration. Part of the deal is that CIH will step down to Member Engagement Specialists for liaisons to local CFACs, Project Support Professional (PSP) for minutes and we have new person from the State. Nothing was said that AC & OPC could meet separately on off months. Network Councils decided to meet alternately and continue to meet separately as another option. Finding a location that works for both of us. OPC members use public transportation and don’t want to lose members because of transportation.
Until the suggested merger is settled, Heart doesn’t want to step away and any additional changes will be helpful and she’d requested to stay on for us to see it through and it’s hard to conceptualize if we haven’t done it that way with fear or feeling uncertain is lack of knowledge and understanding. We were not onboard with this when we first heard about this suggested merger. Concerns were shared that we don’t know their communities and dealing with different communities can be an opportunity to be involved with wider array of populations and get to know what’s going on vs. what’s going on in AC and in OPC and we will be heard in a louder and more powerful way. Focus on our areas doesn’t have to change just because we would meet as one group and having more people that could potentially come to help. Having more folks regardless of where we live seems like it would be really beneficial.

Our main concern would be equal representation for counties and give & take, when & where we meet is accurate. Protecting members we have now and choosing to try those we know a little better vs. recruiting new members we don’t know. What if it was structured in a way that the Chairperson’s responsibilities didn’t really change? CFACs not doing a lot of action because CIH needs to support us better to accomplish the tasks the State has set for us and CIH hopes it will be easier for us to accomplish so we can do what is important to our communities again.

Heart shared her communication plan for updated contact list because we all have different ways to communicate. For sake of communicating with us and to ensure our words are heard, Heart will email us to make sure she doesn’t miss anything and that is something we would consider. After OPC meets, it was decided that Heart contact the Jeanette and Janet to discuss when we could have a joint meeting? It was voted on that we would have a joint meeting with OPC on their regular meeting date September 14, 2017 and a motion to approve mileage for AC members, seconded and approved unanimously.

Jeanette thanked everyone for the discussion and information concerning the suggested merger.

4. New Business

Jeanette Williamson

Recovery month is special for us. Jeanette shared 11 years being sober and a passion to her heart.

National Recovery Rally in Capitol Area on Saturday, October 7th at The Grove on Dorothea Dix from 10am-2pm. Speakers will be NC Attorney General Josh Stein and Kimberly Johnson from SAMSHA. Motion made and seconded to approve mileage reimbursement for any members that want to attend, vote unanimous.

9th Annual NC One in Community Recovery Conference on November 8-10 at Village Inn in Clemmons, NC. Scholarships available. CIH is a sponsor.

OPC 13th Annual PSW on September 22, 2017 from 9am-4pm at New Hope Camp & Conference Center. Heart will send the link to brown paper ticket registration for the PSW to everyone.

Jeanette shared ideas for AC CFAC meeting celebrating Recovery Month trying to get different agencies: Creative Directions to share on recovery, RTSA (Ron Osborne or staff). TASC in Graham and people to share testimonies about recovery. Last year Job Williamson shared about growing up in home with someone addicted to drugs. She asked members and people to do posters geared toward recovery on it or SA awareness like “Recovery is good, life is good”. Also trying to get t-shirts, putting up balloons and having door prizes. Or giving us some pens or a light “Seek God first, Recovery will be added”. Jeanette will check on prices.

Heart asked what kind of support did we want from her? If we vote that’s how we want to use our budget, just like OPC’s PSW, they will support us in pulling this off if we want to promote it. We need a flyer even it’s a Save-the-Date. Jeanette hoping to get someone in their addiction to share where they’re at and hoping to recover one day.

5. CIH Updates

Heart Foxworth

New Community Engagement Director is Emily Smith (Goddrey). She was the Access Call Center Director. Mike Bridges is now the Director for Transitions in Community Living (TLC).
PSS training in Triad next week. Heart requested help in getting the word out they are rolling out their new training programs. They need applications, she is interviewing with and meeting with folks before class. Start finding folks who are interested from this area and go ahead and interview them, then Heart will be able to get a class here sooner than later. In one of our meetings, there was not enough Peer Support Specialists in Caswell, so this will be a good effort for us. Peer Support is growing, not increasing, in terms of the Medicaid service definition or in general.

CIH put a hold on their hiatus on training programs because they wanted to review/revise the materials and the process so everyone has the appropriate support they need to be successful. PSS certification is 40 hour class and need additional 20 hours of continuing education like WRAP, etc. which CIH also offers, then submitting your application to the State with $15 and you become a CPSS. Heart suggested get your applications in with letters of recommendations that have to be in sealed envelopes and to get your interview done, so she can see where it makes sense to schedule a class with a minimum of 8. Heart will email all of us the Application Packet and directions and CIH's new manager from the So Region, LaKeisha McCormick is handling up this process of scheduling interviews, she’s the main contact. Cost for the PSS training is $250 and there are scholarships available.

Jeanette shared that Paula Newman called and said that the CIH Dashboard Reports will only be presented 2x/year and she will be coming in November and May.

Also, Heart reported they have revitalized the Client Rights Committee (CRC) and their primary task is to go over those reports and not sure how we will be cross collaborating? That's the CRC's #1 goal and is up and running again, hopefully be able to create a communications assistant to relay to local CFACs any of the more specific cases/trends that they find and to make it easier for CFACs to provide comment.

6. Comments

Jeanette Williamson

Heart would like for Kelly Friedlander to be at the AC-OPC joint meeting on September 14, 2017 because she's a neutral party and that's what we need in having discussions like this cause we're a small group and with a larger group it's much easier for Heart to be the PIC of managing the communications because she can part of the discussion. Kelly does not work for CIH and is being paid as an independent consultant which is the whole point for her to give CIH a report on how CIH can do better and communicate better to support CFACs to be effective and purposeful groups. Kelly doesn't have any affiliation +/- or stake in the outcome and her job is to assess and report. She wants to help and support CIH to support CFACs better and will be gone when she completes her report by December. Heart asked for permission for Kelly to reach out to us, if that's something we are open to, Kelly is ready and waiting.

We asked about the budget? Stacey reported it is the same as last year’s, but Jennifer Munchen is doing it because she is the PSP for OPC, so Heart will get us a copy of the budget.

What do we want to do about our minutes and do we want support staff to be doing the minutes? CIH will do it if that's what we want and Heart wanted our input. A motion was made, and seconded to have a PSP to do minutes, and approved. Mileage reimbursement rate had changed as of January 1, 2017 from .545/mile to .535/mile.

SchoolStock in Alamance County on August 12 sponsored by Trinity Worship Center at Holly Hill Mall passing out 2,500 backpacks and expecting more than 5,000 students.

October 21-31, 2017 is Red Ribbon Week sponsored by Alamance Citizens for a Drug Free Community.

7. Adjournment

Jeanette Williamson

Continuation of the July 25th Meeting adjourned at 8:16pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Bob Crayton