



Town of Greenwich
BOARD OF HUMAN SERVICES MINUTES
Regular Meeting, May 21st, 2019

ATTENDING

Board Attendees: Annalisa Fernandez, Alan Gunzburg, Abbot Jones, Tom Petrone, Winston Robinson, Natalie Queen

Staff Attendees: Alan Barry

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson, Abbot Jones called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm in the DHS Conference Room at Town Hall.

BOARD PROTOCOLS

The minutes of the May 21st meeting were approved as written by unanimous vote.

**COMMITTEE
APPOINTMENTS**

There was a brief discussion regarding future committee appointments and while not completed as yet they would be finalized by the next board meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. *Strategic Planning Committee – Mr. Robinson, Chairman*, commented that the due diligence work regarding the draft 2020-2022 Strategic Plan is ongoing and should be finished and submitted to the Board for review and approval by next month. There was a brief discussion on the due diligence and approval process. Winston explained that once the draft is completed by the Strategic Planning Committee, it would be circulated to the GHS Board for approval.
2. *Community Partnership Committee – Mr. Gunzburg, Chairman*, is now awaiting committee assignments in order to review the RFP applications for FY '21. The dollar amount for upcoming grants has been approved at \$873,958. For the benefit of new members, Alan Gunzburg reviewed the detailed due diligence process required by potential partners to demonstrate need, commitment and beneficial outcomes to the community.

Tom Petrone raised a question regarding the process of awarding grants at the committee/Board level vs at the GHS Department level. Alan Gunzburg/Alan Barry addressed this issue by describing the required teamwork between the



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committee members and the Department to review and assess ongoing needs and execution of the partner's services.

**COMMISSIONER'S
REPORT**

Dr. Barry started the discussion with the year-to-date/April DHS Operating Statement. The bottom line is that GHS is 7% under budget in terms of expenses. He explained that 90% of this difference is due to unfilled positions. He also explained that this reduction in expenses will not be a limiting factor in adding to staff moving forward. Dr. Barry did explain the ongoing difficulty in hiring experienced, qualified, bilingual staff members.

Dr. Barry explained that he recommended to BET to consolidate 2 part-time workers into 1 FTE and that the case manager director position has been posted.

Dr. Barry next gave a detailed review of the GHS Clinical Activity Dashboard. This is a YTD review including the month of April stats. All data is in the dashboard but for purposes of these minutes the discussion included: Intake/Admissions, Clients Served-Applications, Clients Served-Case Management, Services provided, Staff Productivity, Goal Achievement, Referral Agencies, Discharge Status, Reasons for Not Being Admitted, Pending Referrals, and Re-Admissions.

Dr. Barry gave a detailed summary of the work being done by the Achievement Gap Opportunity Group (of which he is a member). The due diligence of the committee involves collection and review of data and bring together focus groups in order to properly identify and quantify the issues and recommend solutions. The data issues involve more precise identification of the population group in need of help. He explained that in addition to the Achievement Gap Group, two other focus areas are opioid/substance abuse and mental health (depression/suicide).

Lastly, Dr. Barry spoke about GHS being part of the Commission on Aging and its effort to have the Town of Greenwich become certified as an Age Friendly Community.



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EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board went into Executive Session at approx. 8:05. The meeting was concluded at 8:25.

NEXT MEETING

The next Board Meeting will be held on June 18th, 2019 in the DHS Conference Room at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom Petrone