

ERIE COUNTY MENTAL HYGIENE COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD MINUTES

May 1, 2025
Webex, 9:00am – 10:00am

COMMUNITY

SERVICES BOARD: Daniel Antonius, Joan Baizer, Victoria Brooks, Sharon Cavanaugh, Max Donatelli (Secretary), Emma Fabian, Jane Mogavero, Pastor George Nicholas, Stephanie Orlando (Chair), Elizabeth Smith

MENTAL HEALTH

DEPARTMENT: Sarah Bonk, Shannon Stocker

EXCUSED: Christopher Ramnauth, BJ Stasio (Vice Chair)

ABSENT: Terry Alford, Charles Syms

QUORUM PRESENT: Yes
(a majority of the members of the Board)

Approval of Minutes:

- March and April Minutes were approved. Motion made by Max, seconded by Sharon, no discussion, all in favor, no one opposed, no abstentions.

Subcommittee Updates:

- MH Subcommittee (Jane):
 - o Last meeting was March 10th. Minutes will be sent out.
 - o Reviewed our role as a Subcommittee and our Priorities from last year.
 - o ECDMH Commissioner Bonk and ECDMH Dept's Amy Rockwood will attend upcoming meetings.
 - o The Lee Foundation supported a short film documentary that Dan Lukasik and Mark Dellas produced, titled *My Brother Lost in Time: A Bipolar Life*.
 - o Next meeting will be May 12th.
- PASS Subcommittee (Elizabeth):
 - o Last meeting was April 24th. Minutes will be sent out.
 - o ECDMH Dept's Amy Rockwood will present on the Local Service Plan at an upcoming meeting to see how our 2025 Priorities will align with it.
 - o We will be looking into college and university education and curriculum working in conjunction with workforce development.
 - o Next meeting will be May 22nd.
- I/DD Subcommittee (Max):
 - o Last meeting was March 20th. Minutes will be sent out.
 - o We have a new Chair of the Senate Disabilities Committee, Senator Patricia Fahy.

- We will be working with the Stakes Policy Group called Whole Person Support to assist with services for people with developmental disabilities across NYS (wholepersonsupports.org). A lot of people with IDD cross different systems, like mental health and health, and often these systems don't work very well together.
- July 26th will be a celebration of the ADA and Disability Pride event at Riverworks.
- Next meeting will be May 15th.

Chairperson Updates:

- Stephanie attended the State of the County Address yesterday.
- Maya has resigned from the CSB due to her reduced availability. If anyone has names or ideas for a type of person to join, reach out to Max and Stephanie.

Department Updates:

- ECDMH will not be participating in the Handle with Care Registry until Erie County's Office for People with Disabilities, Homeland Security and Emergency Services, and Central Police Services finish their work deciding if they want to finish one Registry, drop all Registries, etc.
- New York's Mental Hygiene Law §9.45 allows for the Director of Community Services to grant local mental health professionals the authority to transport individuals involuntarily to a CPEP for psychiatric evaluation.
 - There is concern around the policies and procedures that the County currently has in place around §9.45 designee process and the consistency of it. There is also angst about the Governor's choice to expand the §9.45 language.
- This year's Local Services Plan update should only include submission of the four initial documents that are required by the State. Let's not change anything, just report detailed information on what our current goals are. In 2027, when we re-do the plan, that's when we will republish the 150-page LSP in a new format inclusive of some visuals and a narrative of where we are as a system.

Open Discussion:

- Discussed the idea of ECDMH having a meeting with the CSB and local MH, SU, and IDD treatment providers to have a conversation about goals and the Local Services Plan. The County can get feedback and ideas of other ways things could be done.

Next Meeting:

- Thursday, June 5, 2025, from 9:00-10:00am.

Max Donatelli, Secretary, Signature