

District 4 Citizens Advisory Board Meeting

Minutes

Monday, December 13th, 2021 Zoom Online Meeting

6:00 p.m. Virtually

**Board members in attendance:** Adam Bosworth, Jamie Buster, Zach Day, Sara Dixon, Nalini Fraser, Philip Fraser, Maria Elena Gonzalez, Madison Shriner

**County representatives and speakers:** Commissioner Lacey Cruse, Brenda Dietzman

**1. Call to Order**

Chairperson Nalini Fraser called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

A quorum was present.

**2. Meeting Minutes from November 8th (2 minutes)**

Jamie Buster made a motion to approve the November 8th minutes. Madison Shriner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**3. Mental Health and Substance Abuse Coalition (46 minutes)**

Project Manager Brenda Dietzman presents on the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Coalition.

The mission of the Coalition is to develop a sustainable, accessible and integrated system of care that serves people with mental health and substance abuse disorders who are in crisis, in order to efficiently and effectively deliver services that create positive outcomes.

The vision of the Coalition is to create a community where people in crisis find a place of hope and a path to help.

The Coalition’s Board consists of members from the private sector, nonprofits, government and citizens. Secretary Laura Howard was recently recruited as a member.

There are a large amount of Coalition members. Some members include Sedgwick County, the City of Wichita, Intrust Bank, WSU, and Ascension via Christi.

Brenda Dietzman explains the Coalition focuses on upstream actions. Downstream actions are reactive, while upstream actions aim to prevent problems from happening.

The Coalition’s strategic plan has three areas: Coordination, Communication, Collaboration; Access to Care; and Workforce.

Brenda Dietzman explains future plans of the MHSA Coalition. They are working on technology and virtual services such as a shared database to improve patient care. The Coalition has also talked about a physical campus with shared space for service providers, a central location, and shared resources.

A WSU Public Policy Management Center study found 516 high utilizers of behavioral health in the community. $36,175 on average was spent per high utilizer a year.

A cost avoidance study showed that the average cost for a behavioral health inmate for 12 days in the jail is $863 vs $682 in the COMCARE Crisis Center.

There is a staffing crisis for behavioral health providers. COMCARE is 54% staffed.

Brenda Dietzman explains the Coalition is working to reduce the number of mental health and substance abuse emergency room repeat clients, and to reduce the number of mental health and substance abuse jail bookings of repeat offenders.

Commissioner Lacey Cruse points out how much money is being spent on mental health with unfavorable outcomes. Need to reposition ourselves for better outcomes.

Chairperson Nalini Fraser asks if there are studies that show how effective working upstream may be.

Brenda Dietzman responds that she has read for every $1 spent on prevention you can save $3 to $5 on addiction and mental health treatment.

Philip Fraser asks how private citizens can help.

Brenda Dietzman answers that you can push to get your workplace involved. You can also contact state and local representatives.

Commissioner Lacey Cruse explains the importance of educating ourselves on what services are available.

Chairperson Nalini Fraser asks if we have resources to connect with organizations.

Brenda Dietzman responds that 211 is a great organization. They have community navigators that can help people get to the right place.

Commissioner Lacey Cruse mentions the Hot Team and their vast amount of resources.

Zach Day points out how mental health is a large issue for municipalities.

Chairperson Nalini Fraser asks about grade school targets.

Brenda Dietzman explains that teaching young school kids about healthy coping techniques could serve as an upstream action.

**4. Redistricting Discussion (21 minutes)**

Chairperson Nalini Fraser begins discussion on Sedgwick County Redistricting. The Redistricting Committee made a recommendation of Map 6.

Sara Dixon mentioned that public comment seemed to be against Maps 3 and 4, and that the Board should focus on Map 6 as the Redistricting Committee recommended it.

Commissioner Lacey Cruse explains that Map 6 has a Southeast precinct in District 4 that will go to District 1, and District 4 will gain 45 Street North. The map does a great job of keeping communities of interest together.

Commissioner Lacey Cruse states creating a map helped her understand the process.

Commissioner Lacey Cruse explains how she wanted redistricting to be fair for all districts and believes that the Committee came to a conclusion that was the best map for the community.

Chairperson Nalini Fraser asked why the redistricting deadline was so soon.

Commissioner Lacey Cruse answers that it is because the Commission voted that way.

Chairperson Nalini Fraser asks what will happen next with the recommendation.

Commissioner Lacey Cruse answers that it is an agenda item that will have discussion, a motion will be made, and it will then be voted on.

Philip Fraser mentions it would have been useful to have all of the information on disenfranchised voters that the Redistricting Committee was provided.

Chairperson Nalini Fraser asks if a process will be established moving forward.

Commissioner Lacey Cruse states that it is a great idea. Redistricting happens every 10 years but can happen sooner than that.

Sara Dixon made a motion for the District 4 Citizens Advisory Board to recommend proposed redistricting Map number 6. Philip Fraser seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**5. Other Business (5 minutes)**

Jamie Buster thanks Nalini Fraser for supporting the CAB during Redistricting.

There will not be a meeting in January.

Chairperson Nalini Fraser made a motion to adjourn at 7:18 p.m. Jamie Buster seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Next Meeting**

Monday February 14th, 2022 - Will be held over zoom at 6:00 pm.