

**708 GENEVA COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD**  
**PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES**

April 11, 2023 7:00 P.M.  
Geneva City Hall  
22 S. First Street  
Geneva, Illinois

**1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL**

Chair Shogren called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

Members Present: Fintzen, Gabriel, Gaines, Hamilton, Shogren, Wagner

Members Absent: Kautz

**2. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

None

**3. OMNIBUS AGENDA ( OMNIBUS VOTE)**

All items listed with an asterisk ( \* ) are considered to be routine by the Mental Health Board and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless a board member or citizen so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Omnibus ( Consent ) Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the Regular Agenda.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES, PAYMENTS**

\*A. Regular Meeting Minutes of March 14, 2023

\*B. Approve Payment to Recording Secretary for Services

Motion to approve by Wagner second by Fintzen

Voice Vote Aye: 7 No: 0

Motion Carries

**5. Guest Speaker: Jennifer Flory, Marketing and Development Manager, Ecker Behavioral Health Center**

Chair Shogren introduced Jennifer Flory and Alexis Bach from Marketing and Development with Ecker Center. Board members introduced themselves round table. Ms. Flory discussed the history of Ecker Center, patient populations served, and types of services offered. Eight pamphlets were distributed to board members to further outline and detail services offered by Ecker Center. Ms. Flory discussed new initiative services being offered including several same day services. Ecker Center offers public training for Narcan deployment upon request. Board member Fintzen inquired about the new crisis center. Ms. Flory discussed their ribbon cutting and recent experiences sharing that the goal for the center is for anyone in the community who feels a need to pause to care for their mental health. The center is equipped to be a relaxed and comfortable atmosphere outfitted with recliner chairs. Chair Shogren asked about access to crisis service providers. Ecker Center employs approximately 150 people. Board member Gabriel asked about access to medication. The third floor of their building provides a pharmacy. Board member Wagner asked about blood draws and labs. Ms. Bach discussed they have a nursing department. Chair Shogren inquired about crisis calls, including calls from police departments. Ms. Flory discussed they do receive calls from police departments; however, anyone can call for help. Ms. Flory discussed their fundraising and spring open house on April 30<sup>th</sup>. Board member Wagner asked about services offered by Ecker Center versus hospitalization.

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Goals of Ecker Center are to help people avoid hospitalization, incarceration and undesirable living conditions.

6. **Chairperson's Report**

Chair Shogren discussed an article on the availability of Narcan in pharmacies due this summer. A copy of the letter to service provider applicants was shared discussing the necessity of a 990 form to be an eligible applicant for funding with the Geneva 708 Mental Health Board. Chair Shogren shared that in general, the letter has been well received based on response from agency applicants stating they appreciate this due diligence work. Fox Valley Hands of Hope has invited the board to their new building grand opening at the end of April. Those who cannot make the date are welcome to visit the new space anytime. Chair Shogren shared two Illinois bills currently open, which seek to offer more specific medical coding for what are currently, more general, mental health diagnosis codes.

7. **ACMHAI Report**

Vice Chair Hamilton states committees feel much more organized and systematic in recent meetings; as such, ACMHAI continues to be an even greater resource for information, helping the Geneva 708 Mental Health Board remain in touch with the larger mental health community of leaders.

8. **New Business:**

A. Discussion regarding the Movie 5000 Blankets

Chair Shogren opened the discussion and shared its availability on You Tube. Board member Wagner shared the storyline of the movie as well as noting that one of the producers of the film is a former Geneva resident.

B. May Mental Health Month

Chair Shogren discussed Mental Health America's tool kit. In the past the ask of the City of Geneva was to run the messaging from Mental Health America. Items from the tool kit were shared round table which would be the items shared on the city website, electronic newsletter and through social media. Chair Shogren has spoken with Lisa Meister at Geneva High School, which once again has shown desire to be involved with May Mental Health Month including the tying of green ribbons in the city as well as activities at the school. The two middle schools will also participate through the LEO's Club which will include sidewalk chalk again this year.

Chair Shogren shared a copy of the 988 crisis line poster from SAMSHA which is a free to print publication. The train station has stated since the rotary is a defunct body, changing the information will not be a problem. Chair Shogren has reviewed printing options and can laminate posters. Round table discussion of various versions of the 988 poster messaging for the spaces considered: including the train station, library and schools. Local businesses were also discussed as possible spaces to post copies. Board member Gaines will call Metra to inquire about changing existing signs on the train. Board members Gaines, Hamilton and Fintzen discussed visiting some of the local businesses to discuss. Chair Shogren offered for anyone on the board interested, to meet May 1<sup>st</sup> at 2:30 PM at the City Building on James to both meet with students from the schools who will be tying ribbons as well as to seek distribution of the 988 signs locally. Board member Gaines will contact the newspaper to write a story of the planned activities.

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9. **Old Business:**

None

10. **Public Comments/Mail:**

Mail was received from:

Changing Children's World Foundation

AID

NAMI

11. **Adjournment**

Chair Shogren asked if there was anything further or a motion to adjourn.

Motion by Gaines second by Fintzen

Voice Vote Aye: 7 No: 0

Meeting adjourned at 8:41 PM

**All Scheduled Meetings for the 708 Geneva Community Mental Health Board to begin at 7:00 PM unless specifically noted**