

MINUTES  
Saratoga County Community Services Board Meeting  
January 25, 2024

Present: James Colamaria, Maureen Lewsey, Lillian McCarthy, Captain Dan Morley, and RJ Stutzmann. Also present: Michael S. Prezioso, Ph.D. and Cari Abatemarco from the Mental Health Center.

Absent: Edmond Amyot, M.D., Amy Hughes, Erin Christopher-Sisk, Ph.D., Michaelah Townley, Paul Morcone, Christina Holst, and Nicole Tremblay, M.D.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Lewsey called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Roll call was taken. A quorum was not established.

**III. MINUTES**

A motion to accept the minutes from December 7, 2023 was not made due to lack of quorum.

**IV. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD**

None.

**V. DIRECTOR'S REPORT/OLD BUSINESS**

A. CSEA Contract Update – Negotiations are ongoing. Additional information will be shared as it becomes available.

B. Safety – There have been persistent safety issues. Most recently, an individual was discovered sleeping on the premises and became somewhat belligerent when they awoke. Police were called in this instance and were very helpful. There have also been reports of intoxicated people transiting through the parking lot, falling into snowbanks causing concern for potential injuries. Additionally, there have been reports of comments and gestures being directed at some of the staff, as well as a report of an individual standing in front of a staff member's car when they were leaving. Ensuring that we create a safe and therapeutic environment for both staff and clients is of the most importance. Dr. Prezioso stated that he will follow up with County Administration to see where we are with respect to future security measures.

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Clarification of AIR Process – In 2021, there were a number of new processes that were implemented. Dr. Prezioso indicated that he believed the appropriate steps had been taken to evaluate the personnel items on the agenda; nonetheless, there were some nuances to the process. They have since been clarified and we now have a greater understanding of the procedure and are looking forward to moving ahead.
  
- B. CRPAs/SROs – Through the AIR process, there is a plan to introduce CRPAs and pair them with school resource officers. We will help provide funding to the Sheriff's office, through the opiate abatement funds, enabling them to enter into contracts with three entities. The initial contract would be with Healthy Capital District Initiative (HCDI), which has a grant to train CRPAs on a rolling basis. They also have a package that offers recruitment and retention activities, supervision, and support for the contracting agency. The second contract would be between the Sheriff's office and one of the CRPAs, and third contract would be between the Sheriff's office and the remaining CRPA. Ms. McCarthy commended the HCDI program, however, expressed concern that perhaps some individuals going through training may not be ready to work in the field. Dr. Prezioso stated that there will be an interview process for choosing someone who would be a suitable candidate to be paired alongside an SRO while working in a school setting.

## **VII. OTHER BUSINESS**

During a recent meet and greet, Dr. Prezioso stated that he had a conversation with the OMH Disaster Preparedness Team who have indicated they would like to identify resources that we currently have in place and offer us various trainings in the event of an emergency. In a second conversation, Dr. Prezioso indicated that BOCES is looking to identify additional resources in the area for children. More to follow.

## **VII. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be March 28, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

## **VIV. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was not made due to lack of quorum. Ms. Lewsey deemed the meeting closed at 4:20 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted by: Kellie Russo**