Healthcare Advisory Board  
Meeting Minutes  
Manatee County Administration Building  
1112 Manatee Ave W. Bradenton Fl. 34205  
9th Floor BCC Conference Room  
February 24, 2016

Opening
The meeting was called to order at 4:58 pm by Cheri Coryea.

Attendance
Members Present  
Stephen Hall – Business  
Beverly Hindenlang – Higher Education  
Philip Brown – Social Services  
Thomas Skoloda – Substance Abuse  
Kirk Zeppi – Behavioral Health  
Ray Fusco – Health Care  
Dominique Kohlenberger – Health Care  
Henry Raines – At Large  
Lori Dengler – At Large  
Ernest (Sandy) Marshall – At Large  
Mildred Isom – Medically Needy Healthcare Consumer

Absent
None

Staff Present
Cheri Coryea - Director, Neighborhood Services Department  
Andy Guyre - Human Services Division Manager  
Allen Donahue - Human Services Program Manager  
Mary Pendleton-Brown – Fiscal Services Manager

Public Present  
Adel Erozer, Victoria Kasden, Tom Moorish, Art Cohen, Ira Kasden, Linda Christman,  
Jeanie Slater, Richard Dymond, Glen Gibellina, Linda Neely.

Introductions:  
Cheri Coryea led a round table introduction of all members present.

Approval of Minutes
Motion: Minutes for January 27, 2016 Action: Approve Moved by: Ernest Marshall  
Seconded by: Philip Brown Vote: Motion Passed (Summary: Yes = 11, No = 0).
Local Government Seminar
Andy Guyre told the board about the upcoming Local County Government Law Seminar. The seminar will cover different topics on how government officials should conduct business to keep themselves out of any legal issues. Members are encouraged to attend. More details can be found on the County Website. RSVP Patricia Nolan.

Discussion about Joint Meeting
Cheri Coryea informed the board that the Joint Work Session between the HCAB and the BCC will be March 29th from 3pm - 5pm in the Manatee Room on the 4th floor. Ms. Coryea provided talking points for the board to prepare for the meeting and asked if any members had any issues they would like to discuss before bringing them to the Commissioners.

- Thomas Skoloda
  - The most important issue is coordinated services for citizens.
  - Would like future meetings between staff and the Healthcare Consultants to have notes taken and provided to the advisory board.

- Sandy Marshall
  - Would like the memo he provided Andy to be sent out to the members regarding potential topics for the BCC meeting.
  - Asked to have Nick Azzara provide a legislative update.
  - Would like the final proposal for the Healthcare Consultants provided to the board.

- Ray Fusco
  - Healthcare is in an evolving time right now. It’s important to create a flexible environment to provide the best future for healthcare in the county.
  - Would like a definition of what are the private vs. county vs. state vs. federal responsibilities in order to define what the board should be working toward.

- Phillip Brown
  - Would like to discuss the role of our county as it relates to the various levels of organization Mr. Fusco outlined.
  - As a county, is attempting to put pressure on state and federal legislatures what we want to do?
  - An understanding is needed from the Commissioners on what is coming down the road so we can work towards the proper goal.
  - Getting the Commissioners to agree that the board will be working in tandem with HMA
  - Getting a clear picture of what is absolutely needed in the different categories of healthcare in the county. Acute care/long term/health and wellness management.
  - When we say “Healthcare” what are we all referring to? Acute/LongTerm/Health and Wellness.

- Stephen Hall
- Visited NCH hospital in Naples. They have a app for the phone that many functions including showing wait times at various local ER's. The board may wish to explore the app and its usefulness.
  - Lori Dengler
    - The board needs to look at what is the actual need for services in our county not just what some individuals think it is.

**Election of Officers**
Cheri Coryea stated that a lot of feedback regarding the election of officers was received through the survey provided to the board. Some members had also requested this be tabled until the following meeting due to other obligations and wanting additional time to consider the matter.

A general consensus to table the election of officers was received.

**Presentations:**
**Turning Points**
Adel Erozer provided a presentation about Turning Points and its services. Turning Points opened 20 years ago due to the number of homeless increasing in the area. A coordinated response to homelessness was desired and the Community Coalition on Homelessness was created which later became Turning Points. While there are some paid staff, the agency operates primarily through volunteers.

Services available:
- Rental Assistance
  - Attempts to keep people from becoming homeless.
- Veterans Assistance Program
  - Housed 90 men and women in 2015.
- Open Door Program
  - Provides services to those who are currently homeless.
  - Serves about 215 people per day.
  - Provides laundry, showers, computers, mail, ID services, and case management.
- Employment Services
  - Service is provided through a partnership with Goodwill.
    - Specializes in hard to place individuals such as those with criminal records.
- Food Stamp Program
  - Completely volunteer program due to state budget cuts.
  - Serves about 150 people per month.
- Medical and Dental Clinic
  - Started in 2009.
  - 8 exam rooms and 4 dental rooms.
  - LECOM provides volunteer hours from students and supervising Physicians.
  - Provides approximately $250,000 per month in free dental work alone.
Services are provided only in the morning due to not having funding to provide full-time Medical Direction.

We Care
Victoria Kasden provided information on the programs at We Care.

- Founded in 1999 by the Manatee Medical Society.
- Provides service to the uninsured and the underinsured
- Serve only Manatee County Residents between the ages of 18-64.
  - Do not check for legal citizenship documents.
- Services
  - Specialty Referral
    - Nearly 90 physicians in the county provide services.
      - Covered under the State Sovereign Immunity
    - 19 specialties are available.
    - 800 patients seen in 2015.
    - Average costs of services is approximately $1,000.
  - Prescription assistance.
    - Patients seen by a participating physician are eligible for a voucher which can be redeemed for the required medication at one of 6 local Walmart pharmacies.
    - Last year approximately 190 patients received services.
  - Breast health and welfare
    - Started in 2012.
    - Approximately 800 patients have been seen since 2012.
  - Primary Care
    - Service is expanding.
    - Able to provide the referral needed to access specialty care.

Mike Meehan
Mr. Meehan was unable to be at the meeting today. Phil Brown presented a packet of information on behalf of Mr. Meehan.

Mr. Meehan suggested at the previous meeting using the ALICE report to identify areas of need and comparing it to healthcare facilities, in particular, Manatee County Rural Health. After reviewing this information he provided a map of the suggested areas of concern where Manatee County Rural Health has existing facilities. If a few facilities were relocated or altered their hours it could provide better care.

Additionally based on the Blake presentation at the last meeting Mr. Meehan suggested using a diversion program to have these patients seen at a lower cost facility. Discussion ensued.

New/Old Business:
Sandy Marshall has asked that Manatee County Rural Health Services provide a presentation due to the number of questions being asked about their services.
Beverly Hindenlang stated that we have not addressed Mental Health issues yet and a presentation would be needed.

**Future Meetings**
The next general meeting will be at 5 pm on March 23, 2016, in the BCC Conference Room located on the 9th floor of the Manatee County Administration Building.

The joint work session will be at 3 pm on March 29, 2016 in the Manatee Room located on the 4th floor of the Manatee County Administration Building.

**Citizen Comments:**
- Linda Neely
  - Every school district is required to have a health committee. No one from there is represented on this board.
  - She was a member of the school district health committee and saw nothing accomplished in 3 years.
  - This board should reach out to them and see what was accomplished in the past 5 years.
  - Medicare doesn’t kick in until 66. What happens to those we care patients who are 65?
    - The board corrected Ms. Neely stating it was effective at 65.
  - Patients don’t take all of their medications.
  - People don’t know basic first aid.
- Glen Gibellina
  - Stated the presentations were great from both We Care and Turning Points.
  - Volunteering is key to helping this issue.
  - Manatee County Healthcare is out of money. Someone from the budget board should be here and someone from this board should be at the budget board meeting tomorrow.
  - We should be looking at practices around the country and state.
  - Dental issues are huge in Manatee County. There is no follow up for those that go to the ER for dental issues and are given a pain pill to solve their dental problem.

**Adjournment**
Meeting was adjourned at 7:13 pm by Cheri Coryea

APPROVED:

Karen Windon, Acting Chair

Date: 3/30/16