

MEETING OF THE NORTH RIVER EXPANDED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PROGRAM
GOVERNING COMMISSION—WEDNESDAY, JULY 17, 2013

The meeting of the North River Expanded Mental Health Services Governing Commission was convened at 7 p.m. by Commission President Joyce Zick, at the Parish Hall of St. John Episcopal Church. The following Commission members were in attendance: Gloria Centeno, Joan Liataud, Roger McGill, Pastor Wilfredo Santiago, Mary Shehan, Carole Spreitzer, Mary Tinich, Rosemary Tirio, Joyce Zick. No one was absent.

President Zick thanked all the committee members for submitting good reports to her.

Copies of the minutes of the June 19 meeting were distributed for approval. Commissioner Spreitzer moved that the minutes be approved; Commissioner McGill seconded the motion. The vote to approve the minutes of the June 19 meeting was unanimous.

The Ethics Officer, Commissioner Tirio, called for Commission members to submit their Certificate of Completion of the Open Meetings Act on-line training to her. Commissioners Tinich, Tirio, Centeno, Zick, McGill, and Shehan handed in their certificates to be kept on file by the Ethics Officer.

Commissioner Tirio further encouraged commissioners to complete the 2013 Ethics Training for Appointees to State of Illinois Boards and to submit to her the Acknowledgement of Participation Certificate as soon as they were able to do so.

Committee Reports and Updates followed.

Commissioner Tinich presented the report of the Bylaws Committee. She noted that at the first meeting of the Bylaws Committee on June 26 some questions arose regarding the connection between the Bylaws and the Governing Act itself. The draft of the bylaws from the first meeting was sent one of the attorneys working *pro bono* who incorporated the provisions of the Act into the Bylaws thus encompassing both documents and giving the bylaws the weight of the law.

Commissioner Tinich moved to accept the Bylaws pending public input and a final vote at the next meeting. Commissioner Spreitzer seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous for the proposal.

Commissioner Shehan commented that because the length of the commissioners' terms were of varying lengths, it was important for the commission to be mindful of those term expirations in order to notify the Governor and/or the Mayor at least 90 days before the expirations so that reappointments can be made in a timely fashion.

Commissioner Spreitzer presented the report of the Finance and Tax Levy Committee meeting of June 24. The job of the Finance Committee is to get the funding and to do what is necessary to collect the property tax for that purpose. The earliest that money will be available will be August of 2014 and that will be from the levy on the taxes of 2013. The three tasks facing the Finance Committee are to create a legal definition of the North River Mental Health Territory, submit a levy amount, and develop a budget to fit that levy.

The Bylaws definition will be used, to work with the Map Department and the City Clerk's office. This will start next month.

By December 24, the Finance and Tax Levy Committee must submit the tax levy as well as the budget ordinance based on the tax levy amount. Commissioner Spreitzer noted that the committee is in need of a *pro bono* attorney familiar with these areas to assist them.

Commission representatives have met with City Clk Tax Manager Bill

Vaselopoulos regarding the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL) which requires taxpayers to approve the initial levy amount of any new taxing district. It will appear as a referendum on the primary election ballot in March 2014 and will present the total amount of tax money the Commission is asking for.

Commissioner Spreitzer suggested that another committee might undertake to do what is necessary to get the PTELL on the ballot, which would entail learning the dates from the Board of Elections for submitting the referendum for the ballot and coming up with the referendum language. Educating the voting community educated about PTELL and encouraging them to vote for it would also be undertaken by that committee.

President Zick asked the Bylaws Committee to undertake the process of getting PTELL on the ballot. Commissioner Tinich, chairman of the Bylaws Committee, agreed to do so.

Commissioner Spreitzer moved that the Finance and Tax Levy Committee be authorized to accept the *pro bono* attorneys when they become available. Commissioner Centeno seconded the motion. The vote in favor of the motion was unanimous.

Commissioner Centeno presented the report of the Program Services Committee. They are working on defining the services to be provided for the community which are not currently being provided. The Commission will not attempt to replace services provided to the severely mentally ill.

The Program Services Committee must determine how and who will deliver the needed services. Two possibilities the commission discussed were to have the Commission do its own hiring or to have the Commission choose to retain the services of another service provider.

The Program Services Committee decided the task of directing and managing the delivery of services on a day-to-day basis would prove overwhelming for the Commission. So they recommend that the Commission seek the services of a Service Provider capable of making an assessment of mental health services and providing services to meet the identified needs.

Commissioner Centeno moved that the commission authorize the Programs Services Committee to develop a Request For Proposals (RFP) a document to solicit application by Service Providers interested in and qualified to provide services to the North River Territory. Commissioner Shehan seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

The next Commission meeting will take place August 21, 2013, at 7 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church Parish Hall.

Commissioner Tinich moved that the meeting be adjourned. Commissioner Shehan seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemary Tirio
Interim Secretary