

KITSILANO CITIZENS COMMITTEE ON MENTAL HEALTH

C/O 2741 WEST 4TH AVENUE

VANCOUVER 9, B.C.

PHONE: 736-3431

AGENDA: Monday, August 27, 1973.

- ✓ 1. Call-to-Order
- ✓ 2. Minutes
- ✓ 3. Personnel Report
4. Housing Report
5. Research Report
6. Brief on Citizen Participation
7. Coordinating Committee Report
8. Inter-Area Report
9. Election Discussion and Internal
10. Further Business
11. Adjournment

KITSILANO CITIZENS COMMITTEE ON MENTAL HEALTH

C/O 2741 WEST 4TH AVENUE

VANCOUVER 9, B.C.

PHONE: 736-3431

MINUTES: Monday, August 27, 1973.

Meeting called to order by Barry Coull in the Chair. Minutes of last meeting read and adopted without change.

Personnel Report: Butch Leslie.

Initial perusal of Coordinating Committee shortlist for Coordinator position showed 7 (of 14) applicants possibly suitable. Methods of advertising discussed - BCASW and other newsletters suggested. Indicated that an ad in the SUN for Kits alone unacceptable to Kyle, though a general ad for the Mental Health Project a possibility. Lanny Beckman resigned for personal reasons from the personnel committee. Discussion ensued about filling the vacancy, and it was decided to hold off until general elections the next meeting.

Housing Report: Hugh Parfitt.

A number of ideas suggested (see minutes of last meeting for housing report) including house, storefront, warehouse. Committee suggests storefront the most suitable. Some objections raised to this - too much noise, no yardspace, etc. Also possible conflict with residents. It was moved and adopted that the housing committee be instructed to look, with priority consideration, into a quiet residential setting, but come back with a fuller report of alternatives and their problems.

Research Report: Jeff Marvin

The GVMHP (Kyle) has refused our request for postage for our survey on the grounds that no guidelines for citizen research have yet been established, and that our research was not objective because we were looking for something particular(!). Lois offered to deliver the surveys personally by car. Carolyn Reynolds indicated she is now on staff part-time at Kyle's office. Since the meetings, Jackie Vischer of Kyle's office has indicated a questionnaire will be sent to the groups trying to determine research guidelines.

Citizen Participation Brief Report: Jeff Marvin.

With regrets, brief not yet completed. Some discussion about role of committees once team selected. Jeff suggests a higher body composed of representatives from citizen groups, GVMHP and Kyle to overlook policy, programmes, etc. It was revealed that members on the subcommittee are fairly receptive - includes Darlene Marzari, Anne Blakey, Irene Brown.

SILANO CITIZENS COMMITTEE ON MENTAL HEALTH

30 2741 WEST 4TH AVENUE

VANCOUVER 9, B.C.

PHONE: 736-3431

Coordinating Committee Report: Barry Coull.

Barry indicated that our (?) budget was accepted with some compromise changes. Mental health workers cut from 11 to 8, meaning there will be 2 or 3 Community Mental Health Workers instead of the 4 asked for. Patient transportation was also cut from \$4000 to \$2000, though Kyle had raised no objections at previous meetings. Since, Metro Board of Health has also accepted the budget. The Cit. Part. Subcommittee also reported to the Coordinating Committee, and stated they thought the C.C. was too professional, unrepresentative, and that the structure should be changed.

Inter-Area Report: Lois King

Last meeting decided that the meetings should be open to whoever wants to come though only two reps from each area could vote. Elections to coincide with general elections.

Discussion on Internal Organization.

Controversy ensued over whether staff members should be allowed to seek positions on the Personnel and Steering Committees. Opposing arguments included: they should not be allowed to sit because of the conflict of interest which might ensue, and that citizens were an autonomous body overlooking mental health in the community generally. There was general agreement that, in any case, staff could sit and be active in the committee (the broad citizens committee). The counter argument made the point that our objectives are identical, that further obstacles should not be placed in the way. Another argument was that the Citizens Committee was like a Board of Directors which should have among its members the paid staff (reference was made to the action slate pushed for the Children's Aid Society). Countered by argument that we were not the Board, as it was the GVMHP was the hiring body. All we were was advisory. One member raised the point that the workers have a different kind of power. After much discussion, carried by 12-11 that staff should sit on neither steering nor personnel committees, though they were open to come to citizen committee meetings as voting members.

Meeting adjourned about 10:30 pm.