

**Allegheny County Coalition for Recovery  
Steering Committee  
Meeting Minutes**

**July 30, 2004**

Present: Sarah Goldstein, Wes Sowers, Chris Weis, Dano Zack, Paul Freund, Rev. J. David Else, Nadine Penwell, Jan Boyd, Harold Hartger, John Cassase, Curtis Upshur, and Mike Gruber.

Sarah Goldstein, Co-Chair, called the meeting to order.

The minutes to the June 25, 2004 meeting were approved.

Sarah asked for additional items to add to the New Business section of the agenda. Four more topics were added:

- PA Committee funding request for the Fall Walk/Run
- Request for funding from the Consumer-Provider Collaborative
- Update on Child/Family Workgroup meeting
- Organizational Planning review

**Old Business**

1. PSAN Fiduciary Relationship with ACCR – Several business processes related to reimbursement of consumer committee volunteers have been worked out. John Cassase presented a budget to the SC for ACCR. The ACCR, OBH, and PSAN are still discussing the amount of money that ACCR will be charged for PSAN staff time.
2. Composition of the Steering Committee – Last month's decision re: the size and composition of the SC was reviewed and discussed. In light of feedback re: this decision the SC amended its decision and passed three motions unanimously.
  - The SC was expanded to 25 members. The composition of which will be
    - 8 Co-Chairs from the three main committees
    - 3 OBH representatives – the Medical Director, one person from MH and one person from D&A
    - 1 representative from AHCI (Allegheny Health Choices, Inc.)
    - 1 representative from CCBH (Community Care Behavioral Health)
    - 3 CAP (Conference of Allegheny Providers) members
    - 9 at large positions comprised of consumers and family members
  - Members of the SC Nominating Committee will be nominated by an ad-hoc committee appointed by the Co-Chairs. The ad-hoc committee will be responsible for identifying and screening potential candidates and then making

recommendations to the Steering Committee. The SC will vote to accept or reject the recommendations. Terms for at-large SC members will be 2 years.

- Initially, SC terms will be staggered so that all SC members don't leave at the same time. This will be done by placing the 9 sheets of paper with the numbers one or two on each sheet (5 twos and 4 ones). At-large members will draw a number out of the hat and that will be the length of their initial term. The target date for implementing this new structure is 1/1/05.

Mike Gruber and Rev. Else will write a draft job description for SC members to be presented at the next SC meeting.

### **New Business**

1. The SC approved a motion to give \$3500.00 to the Public Awareness Sub-Committee for the September Walk/Run for Recovery.
2. The Consumer-Provider Collaborative requested a \$10/person stipend up to \$160 for consumers who participate in the consumer, provider, family member dialogue being co-sponsored with NAMI. SC members who are involved in the Collaborative abstained from voting. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Wes Sowers briefly updated the SC about the Child and Family Group meeting. The group is interested in joining the ACCR in the future, but more discussion needs to occur as to how and in what form this will occur.
4. Mike Gruber reviewed the progress to date of developing an organizational structure for ACCR, noted that a number of issues remain to be addressed, and expressed concern about the potential length of time it could take to resolve these matters at the current pace. A motion was made for the Co-Chairs, Mike Gruber, and other interested SC members to develop proposals regarding the remaining organizational matters for the SC to vote on. The motion passed unanimously. Wes Sowers volunteered for this committee. Anyone interested in participating on the committee should contact Mike Gruber (350-4271).

### **Next Meeting:**

**August 27, 2004 – 12:30-2:15**

**Life's Work, 1323 Forbes Avenue**