

Sacramento County Mental Health Board Justice Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, May 1, 2024
4:30 PM - 5:30 PM

Meeting Location

700 H Street, Hearing Room 1
Sacramento, CA 95814

Meeting Invitees

- Mental Health Board Justice Committee Members
- General Public

Members Present: Mykel Gayent, Melinda Avey, Corrine McIntosh Sako, and Evan Minton

Members Absent: Maria Padilla-Castro

I. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Mykel Gayent convened the meeting at 4:44 pm, introductions were made, and the conduct agreement was acknowledged.

Chair Gayent announced that he will be presenting the “Sharing Hope” program at NAMI on June 8th from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm. The event may be conducted in a hybrid format. The aim of the program is to promote wellness in the black community. Chair Gayent invites the community to attend and take the opportunity to network.

II. Public Comments Relating to the Sacramento County Behavioral Health Services Adult System of Care – Items Not on Agenda

Public Comment #1: The community member alerted the Committee about a public resource available on the CARE Court or CARE Act working group page. This resource could be of significant interest to this committee as it contains two sections detailing the work of two doctors from New York. These doctors are successfully running Assertive Community Treatment and Felony Assertive Community Treatment programs in New York. The resource provides a deep understanding of the unique challenges many incarcerated individuals face, such as processing speed, comprehension, and potential symptoms of psychosis or cognitive clutter that may hinder true understanding. The community members further shared information about Proposition 1, which emphasizes the goals of BHS connection with CalAIM. It does an excellent job of outlining statewide efforts to ensure all counties are reaching those who are often the hardest to treat. The proposition emphasizes the importance of maintaining existing community supports and outlines a pathway for service providers to qualify for funding.

Public Comment #2: The community member suggested considering a facility downtown, the California Endowment, as a potential venue for their next meetings. The fees for this facility are reportedly reasonable. This community member also discussed services for unsentenced individuals, drawing from personal experiences with a family member who has schizophrenia and is currently involved in the justice system. This individual shared her personal journey and expressed gratitude for the work being done by the committee members.

III. Discussion/Action Item: Continue to discuss the Justice Committee Goals for 2024 - Public Comment Related to Feedback on Areas of Interest for MHB Justice Committee to Consider

The Committee discussed on its objectives and focal points, which included soliciting feedback from relatives of incarcerated individuals, arranging for presentations by experts in jail health and reentry services, identifying specific groups of focus on, such as pre-sentenced individuals with mental health concerns. The members underscored the significance of pinpointing areas where the Committee's efforts could have the most impact.

The Committee discussed the logistics of hosting a town hall-style meeting to gather input from community members, particularly family members of incarcerated individuals. The Committee discussed potential dates, venues, and questions to ask, with the goal of better understanding the experiences and needs of those impacted by the justice system.

IV. Adjournment

Chair Gayent adjourned the meeting at 5:30 pm.