



MINUTES

Broward Addiction Recovery Center (BARC) Division
Broward County Substance Abuse Advisory Board
April 24th, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT

Coberly, Stephanie
Christopher Checke
Hurt, Kathy
Nelson-Wernick, Eleanor
Rapaglia, Ray
Hatfield, Matthew
Sobelman, Jonathan
Karney, Donald

MEMBERS ABSENT/EXCUSED

Resnick, Charles
Smyth, Garry
Speiser, Judge, Mark

ALSO PRESENT

Bostick, Keith – Deputy Director Human Services
John, Gerard – Director Broward Addiction Recovery Division
Bonamy, Dwayne – Human Services Administrator – BARC Residential
Gayle, Monique – Manager Human Services- BARC Residential
Palacios, Heather – member of the public
Torre, Salvatore, Recording Secretary

Location

Broward Addiction Recovery Center (BARC)
BARC Residential
Stephen R. Booher Building – Coral Springs

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Stephanie Coberly at 7:36 am.

Quorum

It was determined a quorum was present.

Minutes

The draft minutes from the January 31st, 2024, meeting was presented for approval. Mr. Matthew Hatfield moved to accept the minutes from the January 31st, 2024 meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Eleanor Nelson-Wernick and carried unanimously by all members present.

Meeting

President Stephanie Coberly welcomed everyone to BARC's Residential facility.



Ms. Coberly stated that the meeting would be brief- to allow time for the facility tour of BARC Residential.

Ms. Coberly moved on to the election of board officers, giving a brief overview of the process- which is held every two years – electing board members to serve as President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary.

Current officers were canvassed, prior to the meeting by board liaison Sal Torre, to seek acknowledgment of their continued willingness to serve another term. All stated a willingness to serve another two-year term if nominated and elected.

The following slate of current officers will be put forth for election:

1. For the office of President – Ms. Stephanie Coberly
2. For the office of Vice President – Mr. Christopher Checke
3. For the office of Treasurer – Judge Mark Speiser
4. For the office of Secretary – Ms. Elenor Nelson-Wernick

Ms. Coberly opened the floor for additional nominations- seeing none- closed the nominations and asked for a motion to approve the slate of officers for election.

Mr. Matthew Hatfield moved, Mr. Ray Rapaglia second, slate of officers approved unanimously.

Division Report

Ms. Coberly turned the floor over to BARC Director Gerard John to deliver the Division Report.

Director John welcomed advisory board members to BARC's Residential Facility.

Mr. John discussed the recent facility tour with the county's Facilities Maintenance Division that took place the day before, finalizing needed renovations and improvements such as improved lighting and a facility re-painting for both the interior and exterior of the building.

At the previous meeting, Director John discussed planned use of opioid settlement funds to expand the Detox Unit with an additional 25 beds, along with expansion of outpatient services and community outreach programs. Director John informed the board that BARC, since the last meeting, has been given an additional requirement for the use of the settlement dollars to include the development of an Addiction Receiving Facility (ARF) at the BARC Central campus. There are currently two in Broward County.

BARC's Assistant Director Vanessa Major and Director John will be touring existing facilities around the state, one in Melbourne and one in Daytona, to view existing facilities for design and operational functionality.

Director John moved on to discuss BARC's participation in a Human Services outreach program targeting homeless population at the Central Bus Terminal off Broward Blvd. To-date 30 clients have been successfully admitted to BARC Detox. This outreach includes other divisions of Broward County's Human Services – offering available assistance in a variety of ways- with BARC offering detox and other services.



Informed board that Residential Prenatal Program has their first client since the COVID pandemic limitations to service.

Introduced two Residential clients to address board members and speak about time spent at BARC.

Deputy Director Human Services Keith Bostick asked to address the board. Mr. Bostick thanked the members of the board for their continued support. Mr. Bostick discussed the recent community outreach mentioned earlier by Directro John. The outreach was a unique opportunity brought about by Broward Transit's need to address homelessness issues at the Central Bus Terminal. The initial outreach brought together Transit and various divisions of Human Services working together for the well being of Broward citizens. That opportunity gave staff the ability to assist over 20 individuals seeking assistance. Looking to continue such partnerships and to continue visiting this site and others.

Mr. Bostick informed board members this day is National Denim Day across the world- a day of action that looks to educate others about sexual violence, to combat victim blaming, and to advocate for victim support. Mr. Bostick informed board members that the county is hosting a National Denim Day awareness event at the Nancy J. Cotterman facility in Oakland Park, whose mission is to improve and enhance the quality of life for survivors of sexual assault, child abuse and human trafficking.

Member's Forum

Ms. Coberly asked if board members had any topics for discussion under Member's Forum.

Ms. Kathy Hurt informed board members that the United Way of Broward County's National Addiction Solutions Summit recent held at the Riverside Hotel in Fort Lauderdale was well attended and very effective. High marks went out to BARC Director Gerard John for a job well done serving as one of the panelists.

Ms. Coberly closed the Member's Forum and reminded board members that the meeting needed to adjourn to accommodate the scheduled facility tour.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Kathy Hurt, second by Matthew Hatfield, meeting adjourned 8:05 am.

Next quarterly meeting will be held on June 26th, 2024, beginning at 7:30am- back at BARC Central – Rocky Rodriguez Community Room.