

**FLORIDA LOCAL ADVOCACY COUNCIL  
Jacksonville Mental Health  
Service Area 5**

**November 21, 2006**

**Members Present**

David Espiritu - Chair  
Shelby Simmons – Vice-Chair  
Steve Jones  
Dr. Darrell Craig

**Members Absent**

Elaine Ewen - Excused  
Gordon Bass Jr– Excused  
Anthony Dudley

**Staff/Guests**

Bryan Morgan (LAC)

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Chair, David Espiritu, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. There was quorum.

**MINUTES:**

The minutes from September 12, 2006's meeting were reviewed. *Motion made to approve minutes from September 12, 2006 made by Shelby Simmons, Seconded by Steve Jones. Minutes adopted*

The minutes from October 10, 2006's meeting were reviewed. *Motion made to approve minutes from October 10, 2006 made by Steve Jones, Seconded by Shelby Simmons. Minutes adopted.*

**OPEN SESSION**

**Old Business**

**Budget/Staff Announcements** – Bryan Morgan reported that this council has a balance of \$1,387.81 as of November, 21. Bryan also handed out a Local Advocacy Council Member Time Record sheet. This is a new form Bryan is asking be filled out and returned at each meeting. The purpose of this form is to correctly track member time spent on council work. This is to include phone calls, travel time, case investigation time and monitor time. Five copies were given to all members. Bryan also reviewed the remaining meeting dates for the fiscal year. Member mileage sheets will be emailed or mailed to council.

Steve Jones had attended the SAC meeting earlier in the month and had an unexpected expense of hotel. It was suggested that extra evening be absorbed by the SA5 MH budget. Council agreed. Bryan will forward the approval to Tallahassee for Steve's reimbursement.

**Recruitment/Membership** – The Chair let council know that Elaine Ewen has the intention to resign. This is due to a change in her work schedule and is expected to submit a letter of resignation soon. Ernst Miller has served two consecutive terms with

the LAC, Mental Health council. For Ernst to return to the LAC he must complete a new application to the MP council. This is acceptable as he will be applying to a different council than the one he's already served. With these two expected vacancies, the Mental Health council will fall below the required seven members to effectively function with quorum.

Council reviewed the application of Mr. Charles "David" Shaver. Mr. Shaver's background and application was agreed to be beneficial to the council. Council asked staff to forward to Tallahassee for appointment procedures. Bryan received the application and will forward on. *Motion to approve Mr. Shaver's application made by Shelby Simmons, Seconded by Steve Jones, motion passed.*

Steve Jones discussed another applicant that is expected to submit an application. The Chair urged council to continue to recruit.

The subject of merging the SA5 Multi-Program and the Mental Health councils was again discussed. Staff reviewed the agendas for both councils and highlighted the similarities and explained that merging would only slightly increase the length of a council meeting. Concerns were addressed that Mental Health council members would be asked to address Adult or Children, DD or otherwise clients. That was explained to be false and that cases would be given to appropriate members, matching to their areas of interest. This however would also allow members to cross over and be involved in new areas if they choose. *Motion made to merge Mental Health and Multi-Program councils made by Shelby Simmons, Seconded by Dr. Darrell Craig. Motion passed unanimously.*

Bryan will forward the information to the Multi-Program council for their consideration. A meeting time was discussed in case the merger was approved. The Multi-Program currently meets at 9:00 a.m. on the second Tuesday of the month. The Mental Health Council agrees mornings are more available and suggests a 9 a.m. meeting time on the second Tuesday of the month. Staff will forward minutes of both meetings held Tuesday, November 21, 2006 to both councils and include a suggested meeting time and location for January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2007.

**SAC Report** – Linda Rubens (SAC Chair) was unavailable to attend the meeting. Bryan reviewed the Statewide Advocacy Council Meeting that occurred November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2006 at Singer Island. Council was made aware of the changes to SAC and its new dedication to the LACs. Staff discussed the dissolution of the SAC work plan and its new shorter plan with more achievable goals. Steve Jones also attended and informed council he has been appointed to the Special Committee for Mental Health on the SAC council. Steve reviewed the unofficial work plan and those also involved on the committee. Steve also reviewed with the council the topics covered in the LAC forum held at the Singer Island meeting.

Bryan also shared with council that the SAC office in Tallahassee will be relocated to Orlando in January of 2007. Staff explained there will be Hub offices in current locations but the Executive Director and SAC staff will now be in Orlando.

**Success Stories/Annual Report-** None to report at this time.

**Monitoring Reports –** No monitoring to report since last meeting.

**New Business**

**Notifications -** With the expected resignation of Elaine Ewen, The Chair had asked for a council member to assume the responsibility of reviewing incoming complaints and assigning new cases to council members. Shelby accepted and will be receiving any incoming information. Bryan suggested she call the Hub office with any questions if need be.

**Correspondence:** None

**Announcements:** None

**CLOSED SESSION:**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Submitted by:

Approved by:

Signature on File  
Bryan Morgan  
LAC Staff

Signature on File  
David Espiritu  
LAC /MP Chairperson

cc:     Florida Local Advocacy Council, SA5  
       File