Present: Brian Hart, Pamela Overdurf, Craig Mennig, Leisa Alger, Ed Lukomski, Dora Gorman, AJ Kircher

Excused: Kellie Traugott-Knoll, Sean Eagen, David Andreine

Minutes:

Approved without changes.

Director of Community Services Report – Brian Hart

- **CFCO Delay:** Community First Choice Option – This has been delayed until the first of the year because the rates aren't set. The local Department of Social Services have not established many of the processes to be prepared to front the money and facilitate the process in conjunction with Managed Care Companies. DSS staff have been very nervous about the approval of payments and rate setting. They are happy to hear of the postponement. The County does not have the money to be paying for this and then being reimbursed after the fact. What kind of impact is this going to make? Rates are the issue and who is going to be setting them, and what are the limitations? There are a lot of assumptions, and we are not certain as to where this is headed. We have been listening in on the Conference calls, but no additional information has been given, just research related material. Brian is waiting to see what happens before taking any actions. Right now it is just a huge guessing game.

As for Children, the mental health side of this was not delayed, and therefore has been operational since April. This may result in the county needing to hire 1-2 staff to handle the demand of this approach.

- **Acting Commissioner Theodore Kastner:** He is a breath of fresh air, and seems to be progressive. In the past he has worked in direct care. With the rules changing and with managed care, he does have experience in managed care. There might be a change in direction for managed care. There has been a big slow down on things and we will have to see how things play out. That said, he has also taken a stern leadership approach at times, so the field is having mixed experiences.

- **Cross System Case Discussion – RPH:** Brian recently attended a meeting at Robert Packer Hospital in which they described the infrastructure in Pennsylvania for addressing both mental health and developmental disabilities. It is an elaborate system, that is very well organized in which starts at the State level and then on down to the local offices. We could probably take a look at this and take some of their methodologies to assist individuals in our community. Brian has made connections and can set up a visit to see their programs if anyone is interested. Others on the committee said that they were interested in going to see their programs. We can go visit and ask questions. There is a need in our Community for those dealing with mental health issues and have developmental disabilities. New York does not have
anything formal to combine the two, so if we can model something successfully, then we can cross train. We need to start on an individual level, as family/home/Multiple IRA’s takes a long time. The question was asked as to what would prevent having mental health services brought in? The answer was that Family Services mental health counselors are not trained in how to handle developmental disabilities. Also, a waiver is needed for in-home therapy. The services provided are limited, so they can only provide so much before having to get a waiver. We need to examine and create new interventions as we have many gaps.

- **Presence Counseling Services:** This is a regional private practice model that is marketing itself under the regulations as an IPSIDD (takes Medicaid) that directly competes with Article 16 clinics that are already under-utilized. The rate reimbursement is slightly higher that Medicaid, but not as high as an Article 16. A multi-disciplinary practice has to have a medical director. There are members of the Committee who knew about this when it opened in 2017 and the business has grown. If an individual is homebound, this would be beneficial, but not for Article 16’s. With NYS regulations don’t you need to establish a need? Article 16’s aren’t even full, so why create something without a need? There is a shortage of clinicians, and there is a lack of those who will serve individuals with developmental disabilities. OPWDD has encouraged IPSIDD. PCS needs to be part of IPA, not sure who they are affiliated with, or if they have their own IPA. Brian is following up with the State, as he would like to know who is monitoring this. This agency has names that are known in the DD world.

- **Sharing by Community Members:**
  - **Capabilities** – not billing for the 14C this month. Nothing really changes and we will be subsidizing those who are left. Most won’t know there is a difference.
  - **Pathways** – Ed Lukomski will be retiring at the end of July.
  - **Brian Hart** – He has been approved by the Chemung County Legislature to be the Commissioner of Human Services and will have a dual role in that he will oversee the Department of Social Services as well as continue to be the Director of Community Services.

*The next meeting is scheduled for August 21, 2019.*