

Blackberry Township  
Community Mental Health 708 Board Meeting  
Wednesday, June 15, 2022

MINUTES

Secretary Donna Harner called the regular meeting of the Blackberry Township Mental Health 708 Board to order at 7:02 PM on Wednesday, June 15, 2022, via conference call.

Members Present: Stephanie Butler, Judie Childress, Donna Harner, Lois Mack, Caryn Spitzzeri

Members Absent: None

Also present: Dalila Alegria, INC Board  
Colleen Balija, INC Board

Secretary Harner asked for approval of the minutes of the February 03, 2022, meeting. Upon a motion by Judie Childress and second by Caryn Spitzzeri, the minutes were unanimously approved.

Under Staff Report, Executive Director Dalila Alegria gave the West Towns report on the clients and activities. She stated 59 new clients were served, 184 total contacts were made, and 50 referred out. Activities include distributing community meals, sorting donations, working with clients at the Clothing Exchange Clothes Closet, hosting WTCRT Zoom meetings, grief support groups, and preparing for Good Grief Day camp in late June.

Operations Manager Colleen Balija reported on the INC Board finances for the period ending April 30, 2022. Partial revenue from the building sales have been received. Expenses are at \$2,249,886. Overall, Net Income is \$1,046,130.

Balija reviewed the unaudited client statistics for the fiscal year through April 30, 2022. She reported that 210 Blackberry Township residents received 3,259 units of service for that period. Under Building stats, 1 resident received 265 units of service.

Alegria reviewed the 2021 Tax Extension Report. She reported that the Blackberry levy request was \$59,721 and the extension is \$59,722.

Alegria reviewed the preliminary 2022-2023 budget and noted changes to several items while offering explanations.

Balija presented the approved 2022-2023 Allocations. She reported that the INC Board approved the recommendation by the Program Committee to increase funding by 2% to those existing agencies that requested it.

Under New Business, Alegria shared the recommendation from the INC Board to the Blackberry Township 708 Board for the proposed 2022 mental health tax levy. The increase would be for the 5% Consumer Price Index (CPI) allowed under the tax cap, plus any additional levy allowed due to new construction. Stephanie Butler made the motion to accept the recommendation for the increase to the township board. The motion was seconded by Lois Mack and passed unanimously. Staff will forward the recommendation to Supervisor Esther Steel.

Balija presented the 708 Board with the proposed meeting schedule for 2022-23 and stated that concerns with the schedule can be directed to her.

Balija reported that Mack's term will expire on June 30, 2022. Mack graciously accepted to be re-appointed to a 4-year term. Alegria will notify Supervisor Steel of the re-appointments. Due to the unexpected passing of Blackberry Township 708 Board President, Terry Lanthrum, a vacancy to fill the position was announced. Butler graciously accepted to be appointed as President to the board. Childress made a motion to nominate Butler as President of the Blackberry 708 Board and, with a second from Mack, it was passed unanimously. There are two vacancies on the board that need to be filled as well as the INC Board Liaison. Anyone interested in filling these positions can contact staff.

Balija invited 708 board members to participate in the INC Board Program committee. Description of the Program committee was reviewed and interested board members should contact Balija directly.

Under Liaison Report, Alegria reviewed a few items from the INC Board meeting in more detail for the Blackberry 708 Board.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Butler and, with a second by Spitzzeri, it was passed by unanimous vote at 7:28 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Harner  
Secretary