

Minutes
Services Committee Developmental Disabilities Resource Board
of
Clay County
August 11, 2015

Pat Schoenrade called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm. Present at the meeting were Pat Schoenrade, James Gottstein, Bob Boydston, Steve Elliott and Brian O'Malley.

Pat asked for a review of how site visits to the agencies are going and if there was anything to report to the group. Bob reported that his experience so far was how gracious the people at Easter Seals Midwest were when he visited. While trying to assure them this visit was merely a "get to know you" type event; a manager drove over from St. Louis to participate. The group discussed the idea that, while we do indeed intend a 'connection' visit, some minor sense of evaluation can probably not be avoided, and that is not particularly a bad thing. Pat reviewed the calendar again of visits and offered to prepare an overall report to be distributed to the Board. Steve remarked on how impressed he was by the work the Committee was doing.

The discussion then moved to issues of transportation. Regarding the process for getting individuals into the transportation system, Anita and Laurie have agreed upon a system that has recently been put into place, and needs time to work. Pat reported that more information is needed to understand the concerns that have been raised. Steve said the big concern for him is the rise in costs to provide services. Steve also said he was not in favor of paying for transportation to services in Jackson County. Steve and Brian explained that one concern is possible duplication in transportation routes. Pat observed that discerning this is a project of some magnitude and it might be worth considering involving an intern in this. It seems greater communication with Anita and her staff is needed to understand the needs and resources available.

James was called upon to discuss sexual abuse of consumers and what training may be available. Steve said he thought the agencies train their staff but not sure about consumers. James said he was not having much luck with finding a good training resource. The suggestion was made to reach out to CARF and to the school district. Brian will facilitate these contacts.

Recreation was also on the agenda. Pat said that while recreation is certainly valuable she is concerned the term therapeutic is thrown out in an undefined manner. i.e. what is the therapy involved, is it measured and is it chosen based on needs. The group discussed the possibility that 'community integration' rather than 'therapy' is actually what is intended.

Pat can explore that further in her site visit(s) with concerned care. The assumption has seemed to be that CCI in particular is funded for recreation, while others are not, in part because CCI's events are open to DD citizens the entire community rather than only those that they themselves house/serve in other capacities; Pat will find out more about this. Further exploring of this topic is warranted in the months ahead.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian O'Malley