

**Business Meeting Minutes**  
**5/19/00**  
**Florida Commission on Mental Health & Substance Abuse**  
**St. Petersburg, FL**

Commission Chair Dr. David Shern called the business meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Present were:

Allen, Terry  
Cohen, Jeri  
Haines, John  
Haley, Rob (for Dan Lestage)  
McCampbell, David  
McKinnon, Mary  
Murman, Sandra  
Parks, Sallie  
Pomm, Raymond  
Schuck, Laura  
Sloyer, Phyllis  
Spellman, Michael  
Steele, Diane

Absent were:

Clary, Charlie  
Holmes, Patsy  
Kang, Rodney  
Morris, Charlie  
Sharpe, Bob  
Singleton, Jerry  
Slate, Risdon  
Williams, Bob  
Williams, Irvin

A quorum was present. The Commission approved the Business Meeting Minutes and Content Notes from the April 28, 2000 Commission meeting as written.

Executive Director Dr. Nancy Bell gave the following report:

Dr. Bell asked that any Commissioner who is still having a problem receiving e-mail and/or opening Word attachments contact Sandra Charles at 813-974-2751 or charles@fmhi.usf.edu. It appears that all Commissioners are able to receive and read communications from staff at this time.

Dr. Bell reviewed the contents of Commissioners' blue folders, pointing out documents of particular interest. She then reported on additions to the Advisory Committee since the April 28 meeting, when lack of representation from particular constituencies was

discussed. To date, representatives have been invited from the Departments of Health and Education, the Florida Small Business Development Centers, Workforce and WAGES, and the Florida Council of Churches. Still in the process of providing representation is the Department of Elder Affairs. The Florida Chamber of Commerce (or related entities) will be approached with a broad educational and marketing letter in order to attract individuals and/or groups to act, ultimately, as informed ambassadors for the Commission and its work.

Regarding the survey distributed by the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors about similar mental health commissions in other states, Dr. Bell noted that of those states with current or recent commissions, eight reports have been received, with several more expected. A summary report on the process and recommendations of these other state commissions will be completed and presented at an upcoming Commission meeting. The National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors disseminated a similar survey to their state program directors. To date, 18 states have indicated that they have not had a recent or current substance abuse commission, while 8 said they have (or have recently had) such a commission. These reports have been requested. A similar report to Commissioners on other states' activities will be prepared for substance abuse commissions.

Dr. Bell reminded Commissioners about the blank calendars for September through December sent to them recently in order to plan dates for upcoming Commission meetings. She asked that Commissioners who had not already returned completed calendars please do so as soon as possible and send them back to Sandra Charles, Commission Coordinator.

Finally, Dr. Bell reviewed the status and plans for Commission workgroups. She said that those Commissioners selected at the April 28 meeting to chair their workgroups would work as co-chairs with faculty from the Florida Mental Health Institute who are acting as "faculty chairs" and assuming a leadership role. Dr. Shern elaborated on the workgroups' tasks during their second meeting.

There was no Old Business, nor was there any New Business.

Dr. Bell mentioned that the next Commission meeting will take place on June 23 in Tallahassee in Senate Room 110. The theme will be mental health and substance abuse in older adults. The July 21 Commission meeting will be held in Ft. Myers and the theme will be System Architecture and Financing. A site has not yet been chosen.

The business meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy N. Bell, Ph.D.  
Executive Director

