

**MINUTES OF THE VERNON TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD,  
PROGRAMS COMMITTEE, HELD ON February 6, 2023, AT 6 PM, AT  
PETERSON PARK, 16652 N. BUFFALO GROVE ROAD, BUFFALO GROVE, LAKE  
COUNTY, ILLINOIS.**

1. CALL TO ORDER

In the absence of a chair, the meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Member Al Dorfman.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Member Dorfman led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Dorfman, Thoren, Lewis, Rajesh

Absent: None

A QUORUM WAS DECLARED.

Also in attendance were Vernon Township Director of Constituent Services Barrett Monie and Strategic Projects Coordinator Max Weiss.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments from the public.

5. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIR

Secretary Lewis nominated Al Dorfman as chair, seconded by Thoren.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Lewis, Dorfman, Thoren

Nayes:

Abstention:

Absent:

6. DISCUSSION OF NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND BOARD PROGRAMS

Youth Advisor Kash Rajesh walked through his initial research into other board's needs assessments. Some used university research centers, including NIU's Center for Governmental Studies. Rajesh explained that many use surveys, focus groups,

and other engagement activities to understand the needs of the community.

Member Thoren expressed a desire to utilize student researchers, when possible, with Secretary Lewis commending students for their work ethic and engagement.

The group then discussed the types of data they would like to collect and what sources may provide that data.

#### 7. DISCUSSION OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

All members expressed a desire to hold a community resource fair to help make all resources available in one location. The group also considered holding monthly interactive programs for residents.

Members also expressed a desire to invite community stakeholders to committee and board meetings to foster engagement and support.

Members also desire to attend community events, like BG Days and use that to get the Board's name out there.

#### 8. ADJOURNMENT

Secretary Lewis moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Thoren. A voice vote was taken and approved. The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 P.M.