

Rochester Area Task Force on AIDS, Inc.

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

September 12, 2006

Minutes

Members Present: Wilson Augustave, Julian Brown, Trilby deJung, Renee DeVore, Sady Fischer, Rich Fowler, Bob Lebman, Kraig Pannell, Lynn Varricchio, Sylvia Velez.

Excused: Joan Cain, Bill Fox, Joy Messinger.

Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as distributed.

Treasurer's Report: At the time of this meeting there was \$17,417.71 in the bank. In the absence of Joan, there was no Treasurer's Report.

Coordinator's Report: Lynn indicated that she wanted a brief meeting with the Executive Committee to be sure that the Board understands that if Ryan White Funding formulas preclude funding Networks in NYS, FLHSA will not be in a financial position to continue to provide staff to RATFA Inc. Not only will the Networks disappear, but if agencies receive considerably less money even as there are more people in need of care, all agencies will presumably find it difficult to free up staff to attend RATFA Inc. meetings.

At this time it is premature to make future decisions, but the Board needs to be aware that Reauthorization Legislation could bring about major changes in how AIDS Services are planned, delivered, and paid for in NYS. If RATFA Inc. were to continue, would there be roles and tasks the community would value, and how would those be funded? In a world with fewer and fewer resources, how can the community assure that essential services that are available living for people with HIV/AIDS?

It was suggested that Bob and Lynn consider setting up a meeting with the Executive Director's Group to be sure each of them is clear about impacts of proposed financial changes implicit in the Care Act on NYS. Each of those organizations should be using their contacts to advocate for a full funding.

Other:

Bob and Trilby will attend a meeting of the Rochester Health Care Foundation representing RATFA.

A letter has been sent to the Ad Council indicating that we are interested in pursuing a proposal with them as soon as we have identified the financial resources that we will need to proceed. Kraig indicated that MOCHA will be following up with the Ad council and may explore ways to include a role for RATFA.

Announcements:

Bob reported that the Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse is trying to establish a cap on visits. If agencies exceed those caps, they could face revocation of their operating certificate. Given that over 60% of those who are living with AIDS have indicated on surveys that substance abuse has been an issue in their own lives, caps on these services can be expected to impact the HIV/AIDS population.

There will be no Executive Meeting in October since the General Meeting is being held in Geneva.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 14 at 8:30 am at FLHSA.