Autism Commission 14-22 Year Old Sub-Committee Minutes

500 Harrison Ave, 1pm-3pm

August 10, 2016

Present: Carolyn Kain, Michael Plansky, Sarah Geldart, Kathleen Kelly, Maura Sullivan, Jeff Gentry, and Roberta Lewonis.

Carolyn Kain, Executive Director of the Autism Commission called the meeting to order at 1:00pm and welcomed the members of this Sub-Committee. Ms. Kain stated that the meeting was subject to the Open meeting Law and that the Sub-Committee members present would need to vote to approve the remote participation of some members because of their geographic location, whenever any members were utilizing video and/or tele-conferencing. All members present voted to allow remote participation. Elana Aubrey and Amanda Green participated remotely.

Carolyn asked Elana Aubrey from DMH to provide an overview of services Ms. Aubrey described services from DMH.DMH – Adult Services – 17 ½ and over, Children Services up to age 18.

Intake – Mass Health, CBHI Services- private insurance – in home therapy. Approval of family systemic interventions.

Sensory Integration piece.

DMH – Pathways – Therapeutic and run by clinicians. Individual, group and family therapy. Program specific treatment programs. Two year program

Recreational vs. therapeutic background may vary. No restraints or holds – some are better equipped to handle. Training for the staff – varying levels of understanding about ASD by DMH staff. EA – Janet George and Kathy Sanders asked what communication is being given to the staff. Social skills (ages 16 and over) - independent living skills (ages 17 and 17 ½)

RL – DDS – many families contacted DDS.

Amanda Green discussed connecting students with services – schools are not set up to do work and the structure of school. Intensify PD for school districts. There will be a new IEP model – aimed towards reaching staff, reaching parents and interpretation services. Web based resources. DESE has YouTube video; ARC has a website on transition.

There being no further business, upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, Ms. Kain adjourned the meeting at 4:45pm.