

Behavioral Health & Addiction Recovery

Minutes of the Meeting on
January 7, 2026

**Village of Homer Glen
14240 W. 151st Street
Village Board Room**

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Baber at 6:04 PM.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call; Establish Quorum

Members present at 6:04 pm: Chairman Baber, Member DeLach, and Member Zubek. A quorum was established.

Not present: Member Raber

4. Approval of Minutes

a) December 3, 2025

Member Delach motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Member Zubek. The chair called for a voice vote, all were in favor, none opposed. The minutes were approved.

5. Public Comment

Jaime Callan, a social worker from Hadley in District 33c visited. Some of us met her over the summer at our BH&AR event in the park. She introduced herself to the committee.

Member Snow arrived at 6:06 pm.

The committee discussed a screening process with Ms. Callan and it was explained that the results come in and parents are contacted. She explained that teachers and staff fill out the screening reports, not the students. She works with 5th and 6th graders, and the faculty fills out the screening form. They look to see who is at risk. Teachers have discussions with the social worker. If it comes out average, they don't contact the parents. They do not contact the students until they speak with the parents first. She was asked the ratio of students to counselor, Ms. Callan wasn't sure. She thinks the ratio of students to counselors is working well at her school, they do not feel overwhelmed. They are appropriately staffed. She said there is an increase in autism and anxiety. The screening happens twice a year.

Not many parents opt out, possibly 10 students opt out of the screening. Overall, parents want their children screened. Parents can come to them to say we think maybe we see a need for screening, and the school can handle the screening without a professional screening company.

Dr. Delach explained that we are trying to find a way to educate the parents, the school faculty and the students. She said that they did facilitate meetings at Gooding's for parents with children with autism and they had speakers come out. Dr. Delach explained how our committee works and thanked her for coming out.

Dr. Snow introduced herself and mentioned that they see kids from her district at her practice. She does collaborate with the schools but would like to see what we could do as a community to work with the schools and become a team. Jaime said that parents struggle to get into a therapist, or they are on waiting lists. They don't always want to medicate. Dr. Snow said they don't have any waiting lists.

Member Zubek followed up asking about any other gaps where the community is missing something mental health related. Ms. Callan said that school social workers are the first step for parents, asking for resource information. She gave examples of some possible socialization gaps with students.

The social worker asked about a Rec Center, and Village Manager Baber explained that we do not have anything yet, but the Township is looking to eventually complete a structure that could potentially be purposed as a Rec Center. Member Zubek asked what the kids like to do, say we did have a rec center and Jaime answered they enjoy board games.

Jaime said she could create a google form to see what the kids would like. Dr. Snow said the kids could be creative.

Jaime was asked where she sees mental health going. She said that divorce and lack of family structure are what she sees a lot of. She likes the discussion we are having. She doesn't know where mental health is going, but it's increasing and in younger ages. She doesn't know if it's related to home dynamics. She thinks that if we do have a strong community base, it will help the parents. Dr. Snow said she thinks the anxiety is systemic. Dr. Snow said that a prevalent issue she is seeing with kids is the drive for perfectionism. They want 100%, and it's not imposed by the parents. These kids are young and really stressed over getting 100%. Jaime said that the intensity and expectations are high for the kids. Their answers are very involved. There may be a link between even video games, the drive to get to the next level and that translates into their everyday drive and they are competitive. Today, kids struggle with resiliency over losing.

She said they have great kids at school and that comes from home.

Village Manager Baber mentioned that it's about trying to educate the parents and maybe we could work with the teachers on institute days and collaborate that way.

We asked if there is a way to communicate or speak with parents since they spend most of their time with the kids. Also, we asked her to let us know what is needed. She said she would speak to her director Renee Kawalis who would facilitate something. She said that they did this in the past, it came and it went because they didn't get a big turnout. She thinks maybe it was done too regularly.

Dr. Snow asked if there was any way we could get our information to the parents through her and she said that she would encourage the newsletter over the virtual backpack as it seems to get more traction. She said she would be able to help us to get information into the newsletter. She will also find out about us doing an event.

Dr. Snow asked if there were any service hour requirements at her school, but there were not. That's just for high school.

Ms. Callan said she would ask her principal to know what the kids want in the community, and the committee agreed. Village Manager Baber said even the Village would like to know, not just this committee.

Member Zubek said that we are attempting a panel discussion in March, and she wanted her to be aware of it and asked her to let us know if a gap presents itself and let us know so we can address it in the panel discussion. Jaime said we need a "needs assessment." Dr. Snow explained we are looking to tailor our panel discussion about loneliness.

Jaime Callan left the meeting at 6:43. The committee thought she was wonderful.

The committee is considering doing the outdoor walk with Pet Fest, and we can market it. The walk will be in June.

Dr. Snow presented an outline for the March Event, and she will provide speakers. We need to begin marketing this now. The agenda she prepared is very comprehensive. Village Manager Baber said that we could get this information over to Marian Village and Victorian Village too. Maybe people could bring a lunch and do a lunch afterward to connect.

Member Zubek mentioned recording the event and putting it on our site. She would like for people to find resources and providers and put them on our site. She suggested also promoting things from the Living Room on our pages and social media.

6. Reports and Communication

No reports were made as the committee participated in a lengthy open discussion with our guest.

- a) Chairman Baber -
- b) Report from Member Zubek –
- c) Report from Member Dr. Delach –
- d) Report from Member Snow –
- e) Report from Member Mark Raber –

7. Old Business

8. New Business

9. Next Meeting – will be held on Wednesday, February 4, 2026

10. Adjournment

Member Delach made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Member Snow. A voice vote was taken, all were in favor, zero (0) opposed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:01 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by:



Gia Cassin

Assistant to the Village Manager