

Item 23-1012: Resolution #9-R-23 Mental Health Awareness & Services

Board of Health

Wed, Oct 11, 2023 7:00AM

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 01:53

Action items. We have a return of the resolution 9-R-23 Mental Health Awareness and Services. And I'm going to allow that discussion to take place as if somebody could explain to me the rationale, and I don't know who will be doing so. Thank you. Alder Jones is going to present that request for re-evaluation.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 02:22

So, what had happened was the video was unavailable for the Board of Health. So, some of the other ald—other, some of the other alders had wanted to watch the video before going ahead and making a vote on that. So, it was just brought back so that we could have the discussion shown.

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 02:38

Given that, would the author like to reintroduce it to the to the to the board and to the community and the public so that we can have that discussion?

Mayor Jake Woodford 02:56

What's your mic number? Sorry.

Alderson Nate Wolff (District 12) 03:04

Thank you, Chair. So, this resolution is things that the city has been doing and will continue to do, a reaffirmation of what our health department does and what we want the city to know that we're doing, as well as an effort to break down stigma, increase communication, and a multitude of other things.

Alderson Nate Wolff (District 12) 03:31

I do have a request of the board today to make an amendment on this resolution to include, a "therefore be it resolved" to reaffirm the city's million dollar ARPA allocation to mental health and to ask them to divvy them up—divvy it up in grants to be given to organizations in the community. The wording could change. But that's the general sense, of the "therefore be it resolved".

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 04:12

So, point of clarification, I'm just trying to understand the appropriate roles. First, I'm—I think we're all in this room grateful for opportunities to talk about the importance of mental health and value a resolution that commits our city and recommits our city and our efforts at the Board of Health to support mental health initiatives. What I what I'm trying to understand is where that resolution gets introduced, is it is it here and we have the opportunity as a board to put that in, or is this a resolution that should be at the level of Council? And it's just perhaps my naivety about things.

Alderson Vered Meltzer (District 2) 05:04

Thank you, this resolution was introduced to Council and then referred by the mayor to this committee. So that means that any work as far as amending it and stuff, this is the committee where that committee work happens, and ideally what goes to Council for a final vote should be something that this board is satisfied with as being a completed product that we don't need to work on anymore.

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 05:38

Okay, so there's—if so, if the Council is satisfied without any changes at the Council level, they have the opportunity to just vote on our recommendation?

Alderson Vered Meltzer (District 2) 05:51

Yes.

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 05:51

But they could also change. Okay.

Alderson Vered Meltzer (District 2) 05:53

Yes.

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 05:55

So, then I think in the interest of further discussion, guide me on this as well, but we have a suggestion for an amendment. And I—can somebody read that full amendment to us?

Mayor Jake Woodford 06:13

Well, I'll just as a point of clarification here, Alder Wolff is joining for discussion, but is not a member of the Board of Health so someone from the board would need to make a motion to that effect if someone wanted to.

Alderson Vered Meltzer (District 2) 06:33

I'll I'll make that motion. I move that we—okay. Did—another point of clarification, though. Do we—we already have our motion and second on this item, right? Or did we just jump right into the discussion?

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 06:49

No, we don't.

Alderson Vered Meltzer (District 2) 06:50

Okay, so I think that we should start with a motion and a second on the unamended resolution. So, I will move that we approve this. **[There was a pause while possibly someone off microphone seconded the motion.]** Okay, and now, I will move that we amend this to add a final "therefore be it resolved" that we reaffirm the \$1 million ARPA allocation to mental health and we will divide this money amongst organizations in our community.

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 07:27

Is there a second? Okay, discussion.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 07:38

I need to thank you for bringing this forward. I think it's very important to talk about mental health and break that stigma. And to show my support of that, I first had my issues with mental health starting at age 12. So, I understand the struggles and that's why we support mental health organizations as much as we can. So, thank you for bringing the awareness.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 08:04

What I what I worry about is that I love the spirit of this, and I love that we're getting the word out. But I don't think that we—sorry, but I don't think that we as a Board of Health know enough to be making a decision on this as it is. There's a ton of work being done in the field, and we're all still learning, which is great. But I think that

for this, we need to make more informed choices, and the more informed choice we can make, the better choice we can make and we can make for a better resolution.

Aldersperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 08:37

So, the stakes when it comes to mental health are so high, we need to do our due diligence to make sure that we are doing what's right for those in our community. There are a lot of groups who are doing so much work in this area, not just nonprofits but also academics are doing some really great studies even locally and regionally on this. Employers—there was just an article in Insight magazine talking about mental health and workplace wellness. There are so many different groups in different sectors doing this work, and to give an example, there is a study—our community health team at ThedaCare is doing some work with youth mental health and social media. And so, the first thought is, well, social media is evil for our youth, and the studies actually show that it's not as evil as we think it is. And so, the studies are showing that the popular opinion isn't exactly right all the time, and that also kind of worries me.

Aldersperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 09:39

I want to recognize the ARPA funds, we did vote on a resolution that those go to mental health, so we're not standing in the way of any grants. They can go and apply for those now. Correct?

Aldersperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 09:39

So, what I would like to propose for an idea is that we just hold the resolution for now. And going forward every Health Board of Health meeting we invite in a nonprofit to come in for 15 minutes and say who they are, what they do, and who they serve. And then they can tell us from their perspective and their client perspective what is the state of mental health in our community and where the gaps are according to them. So, after learning from all these different nonprofits, we can go ahead and make a better-informed choice as the work that needs to be done. So, it's with—I feel like without that information, it's hard for us to be helpful. And so, again, where are those gaps and what's not being done? So, then I feel like, after a year of doing this, we can take it back up and have a better understanding to where we can help and where we need to fill those gaps.

Mayor Jake Woodford 10:54

When a grant program's made available, which is, which has been the intention that these funds would be directed as the Council laid them out in the buckets, action or, or, or holding on this resolution wouldn't materially impact the timing of that program.

Aldersperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 11:13

Okay. That that was my concern on holding, but that way, we're not holding anyone back from doing the work. We can still support. This is this is a great first draft. I just worry about the message it sends to the community if we're not taking the time to look into this. Thank you.

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 11:36

Can I ask the mayor just to talk a little bit for the record about what the process is for the ARPA grant program and applications and tailor it to mental health? How would that look?

Mayor Jake Woodford 11:57

So, the city has handled ARPA funds in a variety of different ways. Just backing up, communities across the country received direct allocations from the federal government. One of the first times that's ever happened, or the first time it's ever happened at that scale. The city of Appleton received about \$14 million of American Rescue Plan Act funding, and we then put forward a set of recommendations to the Council which the Council then revised, made it their own and then adopted into the budget.

Mayor Jake Woodford 12:36

There were two, we'll call it tranches of ARPA funding that were laid out in the budget. And the first was what we would categorize broadly as funds for city, direct city spending, city related purposes. So those were things like pandemic response, lead service line abatement for our water system in the city, among others. There was a second tranche of funding, just under half of that funding that was put into buckets for different purposes in the community, different priority areas. And one of those areas was for issues around mental health, violence prevention, etc.

Mayor Jake Woodford 13:19

So, there is money that's been directed to that sort of programmatic area, but has not yet been specifically directed to different projects or funds. And so, as we look at the remaining ARPA funds between now and the end of 2024 when those funds are required to be obligated—not necessarily spent, but obligated—those funds will be handled in a variety of different ways. So, some of them might be grant programs. One of the things that we found with granting is that it can be challenging from an administrative perspective. So, there are some evolving guidelines from the Department of Treasury in terms of how granting can be done by municipalities, by ARPA recipients. So, we think that that may help with some of the granting activity. But in terms of the specific program, we've not set up that specific program yet. But within the next few months here, we'll be we'll be standing up new programs to get these funds obligated by the deadline.

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 14:36

That's helpful.

Aldersperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 14:41

And mayor, you said that they had to be used by 2024? Just a information point you said that the funds the funds will have to be obligated by 2024 or is there a date in 2024?

Mayor Jake Woodford 14:54

End of 2024? So, December 31 of '24, the funds have to be obligated but not necessarily spent.

Aldersperson Vered Meltzer (District 2) 15:08

Thank you. I guess I don't understand why we would want to hold this resolution. I feel like you know, when I look at the action that it's asking for in all of its therefor clauses, you know, be it be it "be it further resolved, the city of Appleton will continue to work collaboratively with local mental health organizations and other stakeholders to identify gaps in mental health services and develop strategies to address those gaps." I mean, I feel like that kind of is a summary of what we would be doing if we're, you know, bringing in speakers and representatives to come and educate the board more on stuff. So why would this resolution need to be on hold in order for us to proceed with action outlined in the resolution? I guess I'm just a bit confused about that.

Aldersperson Vered Meltzer (District 2) 16:01

One thing that concerns me is that the community at large does not know that the city prioritizes mental health. The community at large, honestly does not know very much about what the Board of Health does at all. And the fact that mental health is an important part of health is also, you know, something that we're working on destigmatizing and, you know, in a broader national dialogue, educating communities about. So, I think that's important.

Alderson Vered Meltzer (District 2) 16:33

I also am concerned that we don't, we don't have enough applicants for the different ARPA grants that we've made available, I feel that, you know, a resolution, a resolution like this, to kind of bring that to attention so that we can make sure that we do get everything obligated by the end of 2024. I guess, you know, one thing that concerns me as I consider these things is, you know, I don't I don't want us to have any money remaining unobligated. I think that would just be incredibly irresponsible of us as a Council. So those are, those are my primary concerns. With this discussion, thank you.

Unknown Board Member 17:22

I don't know if this is a question or a comment. But it seems to me that we can do two things at the same time. We can pass a resolution, and then go ahead with the activities that you've recommended to bring representatives from nonprofits in to further educate us. I guess, having worked in this field professionally before I retired, I'm aware that grant programs require a well written request for proposals—RFPs. And it's not clear to me how that process is happening or whether there's any relevance for the Board of Health to try to contribute to the requests for proposals so that we clarify what the purpose of spending those funds would be. We have a lot of organizations in the community that would jump at the chance, I believe, to some submit proposals for funds, and I guess I'm still aware of some of the issues in the community, and access to care is the biggest issue. And the way that I don't—I'm not, I would—I would hope to see that any grant program would try to knowledgeably offer funds to organizations who could better coordinate their access to care. So. Please.

Mayor Jake Woodford 18:22

So just as a point of clarification, there has not been a grant program developed yet. And I want to come back to some comments about the ARPA funding that were made earlier. Regarding concerns about not having enough applicants for ARPA funding, I believe that was in reference to an affordable housing grant program that was put forward when the full amount of that funding was not allocated through that grant-making process to the public. I would say that's a very different set of circumstances, in terms of what we were asking for from the community in terms of housing production, a very specific kind of housing development. I think one of the challenges with ARPA grants is there are requirements in terms of compliance and of fiscal wherewithal that organizations have to have to receive federal funds and then and then manage those federal funds. Not insurmountable, but certainly, it complicates things. It's not as straightforward with the ARPA funds as, certainly as we would have hoped. And I think a lot of communities are experiencing that across the country. Especially even just in this local area, I'm aware that Outagamie County is in the process of trying to get funds deployed out into the community and finding it challenging. I think that's why Treasury is probably updating their guidance to try and help communities get that money spent down, but it's not been without complication.

Mayor Jake Woodford 20:48

Regarding unobligated funds at the end of the ARPA program, I don't expect—and we're ranging a bit outside the scope of this proposed amendment, but just to be clear, I don't expect that the city will have unobligated funds at the end, because in the allocation that the Council made in the budget, it clearly specifies that unobligated funds at the end of the program will be redirected to city purposes. So, Council's already made provision for that in the budget. So just I don't want there to be confusion in the community about how that will be handled in the end. If there are remaining ARPA funds the Council has made provision for that with previous action.

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 21:38

Go ahead, Alderson Jones.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 21:43

Just a follow up on some of the other comments. I—yes, it does show that we are saying to support these organizations. And speaking of, you know, do residents really know what the Board of Health does, I worry that do residents know—a lot of residents know what resolutions do, and if we're just kind of putting forth this resolution to say, let's keep doing what we're doing, let's keep supporting those people who are doing things, it's not taking—it's not taking action. And I feel like if we can learn more about what we need for gaps in the community, we can make this more robust after hearing from those organizations and make this stronger and better. And I worry that it looks like the city is coming in and saying, "Everyone pat on the head, you're doing a good job, we see you," and I just feel like if we can be getting and talking with people in the community and having them in and having that bridge and that connection, it's a partnership, it's a collaboration, and then we can do more with the resolution instead of us just doing this without involving the groups.

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 23:06

So can you—I just like an example, if you don't mind, of how you see if we've gone through a series of education efforts for the board and the public, specifically, in this particular case around mental health, as you suggest. And I'm—this has been actually brought forward to the board in in the past as something to move towards, and I think with our not so new but relatively new health officer as we organize, this makes great sense. But how would you see the resolution being strengthened?

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 23:43

Once we can ascertain more gaps in the community, what are things that need to be done? What are things that can be done? And what do we have from a city capability? What can the board—er we're the board the Board of Health—what can the Health Department do within things that they're already doing to add to that? Are there other community groups that can do this? If not, what can the city do? What can the city support? What actions? What activities? And so, by having more of an education on—have someone in from mental health from my youth perspective, from an adult perspective, from a seasoned citizen perspective of social isolation and loneliness and playing on mental health, we have a bigger wealth of knowledge and information to be saying, "Okay, here are the gaps. How can we fix these gaps? How can we come together?"

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 24:36

I saw that Alderson Wolff had intention to speak.

Alderson Nate Wolff (District 12) 24:41

Yes.

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 24:42

Go ahead.

Alderson Nate Wolff (District 12) 24:43

Thank you, chair. I will say with this resolution, I went line by line with Director Sepers to talk about it to make sure that the messaging was good for the community at large. There are other things that I plan to do after this resolution is passed. I do—I just think it's a good idea to bring in nonprofit mental health organizations. I do think we can do both at the same time, passing this resolution and then beginning that work. Working on mental health is going to be a tedious and long projected, you know—we have to keep working at it as a city. It's not just one resolution, or it's the work that happens after that, and maybe building more within our city, that sometimes we don't necessarily need a resolution to bring in mental health organizations. Although if this board wanted to—I know we're still talking about the first amendment, but you could also add that to that that we're going to bring in mental health organizations to talk to the Board of Health or try to at least. I did try to get one

mental health organization to come in today. Unfortunately, they can make it this morning. But yeah, I would encourage you not to hold it.

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 26:09
Go ahead.

Mayor Jake Woodford 26:17

I think something that Alder Wolff just said gets at maybe the crux of the discussion here, just thinking about what Alder Jones recently said and what Alder Wolff just said, when Alder Wolff said "We don't need a resolution to bring in organizations to speak on these issues." And I think, perhaps that was the point, and I don't I don't want to car—mischaracterize what Alder Jones was saying, so please, correct me if I have this wrong, but in a way, I think both are saying the same thing which is we don't need a resolution to take the action spelled out in the resolution, just as we don't need a resolution to take the action that Alder Jones is pointing out.

Mayor Jake Woodford 27:02

And so I'm left trying to understand then—okay, what are we, what is what is this accomplishing? Starting a conversation and having a public dialogue is a is an important and worthy thing to do as a community. And if that's all this does and we pass it out of Board of Health, and it goes on to Council, then that that's just as well. But I I'm left trying to understand where this fits in a broader agenda that Alder Wolff is expressing that hasn't been shared with the Board of Health or the community.

Mayor Jake Woodford 27:42

If this is a part of then further action, what are the further actions? And can we talk about them here? I think that's what Alder Jones is perhaps getting at is what are the actions that we want to take as a community? And my question also would be, what is the role of the city in the work? What is the role of the Appleton Health Department in the work? And where do we fit as a city in the constellation of efforts that are happening in the community when it comes to addressing mental health issues?

Mayor Jake Woodford 28:13

And so, I'm just—at the discussion I voted—I voted last time to pass this and send it to Council and I'll support it again, if that's ultimately what we as a Board want to do. I just—I'm just trying to understand now what does it do? And what are the action steps that we're going to take as a board and community? What's the role of the community in the work? Sorry, for the rambling, but I just, like that—as I'm processing this conversation, I'm just trying to come to an understanding about that. Thank you.

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 28:54

I'm trying to place it into the context of the work that the Board of Health or how the Board of Health has worked in the past, in perhaps some similar ways and also being open to you know, more robust work on the part of the Board of Health. And it does, you know, create a some questions about, you know, the integration between Appleton City Health Department, our health officer, the governance of Appleton and the mayor and the Council, and then the Board of Health relative to health-related issues.

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 29:29

And it's—and it is, you know, there's some complexities because of vagueness in some respects right. And there's a lot of trust in terms of this is not a health, board of health that—a board that is typically done the action actionable work that that takes place in our in our health department and doesn't do the supervisory or

governing work that takes place in our Council and the mayor's office and our city government, and so linking those, and—it's kind of what is our role and so I'm going to surpass you in rambling.

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 30:07

But, you know, when we passed a resolution that had to do with a statement that public—that racism is a public health crisis, we didn't, we didn't hold it because of needing actionable items. We didn't hold it, because we needed to give very specific direction to the health department or to the city. We did it because we thought it was a state—an important statement. And so, I see that that that's how I voted last time; it's an important statement. And it's an important—to me it is it's awareness. It's—this is awareness, encouragement, and commitment to continue work to work towards something.

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 30:52

I feel like the whole actionable piece and the knowledge piece is incredibly important as Alderperson Jones, and I do see it as a not an either or, but it's an "and". And I would love to see this board get to the next level of we're going to bring in—we're starting with mental health, and we're going to educate ourselves so that we can engage in some of the stuff that's currently happening that we can help it move it along intentionally, and that we can support our our—and better understand what's happening not only in our community but assist our health officer. Because there's a there's a lot that we entrust and should support, but that we can't take over and organize. And we haven't even talked about the community health assessment and improvement plan which is a huge part of this as well.

Unknown Board Member 31:50

Sometime last year, we did bring in John Parsons from Samaritan Counseling to educate us on the mental health screening program, very active, robust, almost nationally recognized program. So, on occasion, we've taken the kinds of steps that that you're suggesting and recommending, and I think it would be great to continue to do that. But I guess I see that as possible after passing a resolution that makes a very clear statement that we consider this of critical importance to the community this this issue of mental health.

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 32:39

Is there further discussion? Alderperson Jones.

Alderperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 32:48

I very much understand the statement on racism. I understand making the statement to show that we are for it. I wasn't on Council when that last one was passed. It's probably just me, but I don't like making a statement to make a statement. If you're going to make a statement, you need to show that your words mean something by showing action, and there's no action steps here, so I feel like give myself a pat on the back. I know that Alderperson Wolff has plans, but they're personal plans. So, I don't know what they are. I just know that we as a city have no action to follow up, just keep doing what we're doing. And that's what—that's what worries me.

Alderperson Vered Meltzer (District 2) 33:43

I guess when I look at this resolution, I see it very much the same way that Dr. Vogel sees it, that this is a statement. This is a very important statement that we need to make. And throughout practically a decade on Council, it seems to me that that is one of the things, one of the responsibilities of this board is to engage in that type of communication and often make statements. I think some of the statements made at this board have been some of the most powerful statements that Council as a body has had the opportunity to put their voice behind. So, I think that that's an important aspect of this resolution as I see it.

Aldersperson Vered Meltzer (District 2) 34:22

As far as whatever other personal plans that the author of this resolution might have for how to use this as a foundation and build towards future resolutions, I don't think that that's something that's remotely concerning, even though it's certainly very interesting, and it's it certainly potentially has a lot of positive things that this author could potentially bring to the community. Or the author could decide not to write another resolution about mental health for the rest of the author's time on Council, and either way, this resolution is very good work and I don't see any reason to stand in the way of it. Regardless of whether or not the author has plans to build upon this foundation, I think that this resolution, you know, will give the health department things to build on and it will strengthen the awareness in our community in a way that will give us the traction to build further focus on mental health. So I think that those are all very good things, and I can't think of any reason that we would want to stall this or hold this up here.

Unknown Board Member 35:41

Are there any possible negatives to passing this resolution? Are there any expenses to be incurred or any burdens or barriers for any organizations?

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 36:01

Yeah, I think I would be looking to both, you know, Officers Sepers as well as the mayor in terms of that question.

Health Officer Charles Sepers 36:14

Yeah, so the way the resolution is written now, it would not incur any costs.

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 36:22

I think the—Emma, Emma Kane, please, speak up.

Emma Kane (Board Member) 36:30

Hi, there, guys. Can you hear me?

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 36:35

Definitely.

Emma Kane (Board Member) 36:37

Yay. Um, thanks to Meghan for making this all work. She's been working with me since we got started to get this on. **[Her volume seemed to go in and out]**

Mayor Jake Woodford 36:56

We can hear you.

Emma Kane (Board Member) 36:58

Perfect. I've been trying to listen and follow as the audio has been going in and out, and I can't quite see who is off camera. But I just want to highlight whoever mentioned that this can be a both and situation. And I think it's really important that we consider that things are not mutually exclusive, that we can do [...] and continue to work and come to—like find some—create like an action plan of things that are going to happen.

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 37:38

Okay, I have a comment I'm going to make and then I'm going to call for a vote on the on the resolution in the interest of time and our other business that we have to do. The one thing I do want to say is that I think where I

struggle is, you know, sometimes the actionable items piece of things becomes somewhat complicated for the Board of Health because we aren't a committee like that exists in the unit of government that can take and do some of the work that we wish to design. And we may need to at some point, revisit what our role is, but I would—that's just a comment I wanted to make, and then I thought it's time for us to call for a vote on the resolution.

Mayor Jake Woodford 38:20

Chair, just a point of clarification. You have an amendment—

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 38:24

On the amendment. Excuse me.

Mayor Jake Woodford 38:25

—that needs to be handled.

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 38:26

That's what I meant, on the amendment first. So is there—all in favor of the amendment to the resolution, please signify aye. Aye. All opposed?

Mayor Jake Woodford 38:40

Nay.

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 38:41

Abstained? Okay, so the motion carries, the amendment carries. And now a—we need a motion on the resolution or not? How does that go?

Mayor Jake Woodford 38:53

You have a motion on the on the item, and it has been amended. So, we're back to discussion of the item as amended.

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 38:59

Okay. Can someone clarify me—I don't think we have an act of motion on the resolution today. Do we?

Mayor Jake Woodford 39:07

Yes, we do.

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 39:08

Okay, I'm sorry. Go ahead. Any discussion on the overall?

Mayor Jake Woodford 39:14

Chair, if I may. I'm going to vote to support this. But I think it's important we be clear as a board, it is a statement. And that doesn't mean there isn't more work to be done. And so, I think by passing this, it shouldn't be taken as a we're done with this work, or the or that there isn't more to be done as a community, or that we don't have work to do as a as a city in terms of understanding and clarifying what the role of the city government is in these issues.

Mayor Jake Woodford 39:53

I would like to point out and maybe just on behalf of the clerk, there's a in the "be it further resolved" that states that "the clerk of the Common Council is directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the mayor, local mental health organizations, Wisconsin state legislature and members of Congress in Wisconsin," just in the interest of the clerk so that we don't have to clean that up at Council, what organizations are we sending this to? Who receives this? Who do we consider "the local mental health organizations"?

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 40:40

Would you like to speak?

Unknown Board Member 40:43

The umbrella organization that has worked to coordinate and collaborate is called the Northeast Wisconsin Mental Health Connection. I think they've recently shortened their name to the Connection. And they have representatives from all the health systems from public health—currently, it's a Winnebago County representative Doug Gieryn, and that would be the body that definitely could disseminate the fact that we've—the information about this resolution. I think almost everybody that would need to hear it is at the table at the Connection board.

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 41:24

And related to that, I would recommend that that's where we start in our education piece is with is with the executive director of that organization to come and tell us about, you know, the connection, our NEW mental health, Northeast Wisconsin mental health connection. And I think that that that is an action that we take that doesn't require being spelled out in this in this resolution.

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 41:50

And when I vote in favor of this, it's because I believe it is moving it forward. It's the acknowledgement, it's the awareness, it's that we will help champion this. And I worry that sometimes the perfect is the enemy of the good. And that we can, if we wait until we're all educated, we may become part of the of, you know, the holdup. But I really love this discussion, because you are holding us accountable. I think you've brought to the table this just can't be a statement and we've done our job. This is a this is a commitment to say, we're going to continue this and I know you will help hold us accountable for that so that we see this as a kind of a win-win in many ways. Other comments?

Mayor Jake Woodford 42:37

So just then, can we amend this or just be clear about who the loc—we just—if it's NEW Mental Health Connection, then can we just specify it? Because the clerk's gonna have to—I don't I don't mean to be nitpicky here, but the—like the clerk's gotta then take action on this, and it would help. It would help the clerk if we had some clarity in the in the resolution.

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 43:04

So, can I propose an amendment that exchanges for "organizations" the wording "the NEW mental health connection and its umbrella umbrella and its affiliated organizations"?

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 43:24

Is there any discussion on the amendment? All in favor say aye. Aye. Any opposed? Opposed? Thank you, Emma. Okay. All right. Thank you.

Lee Vogel (Board Member) 43:39

And now, any further discussion on the resolution itself? Okay, all in favor say aye. Aye. Any opposed? Nay? One nay. Any abstained? Okay. The resolution passes. Thank you. That was a rich discussion. Thank you.