



State of New Jersey

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Governor

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE
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KIM GUADAGNO
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MINUTES

NEIL VAN ESS
Acting Chairman

CELINA GRAY
Acting Executive Director

Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse May 21, 2014

Call to Order

The two hundred eighty ninth regular meeting of the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Elected Chairman Neil Van Ess.

Open Public Meetings Act Statement

Chairman Van Ess announced that notice of this meeting was provided in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 – 10:4-21).

Roll Call

Katelyn Assenheimer called the roll. Members present and absent were noted for the record.

Approval of March and April Minutes

After a brief discussion, the March and April 2014 minutes were approved.

March – (Y-13; N-0; ABS-2)

April – (Y-11; N-0; ABS-4)

Bylaws Provision

Chairman Van Ess asked for a motion to continue operating under the Emergency Powers of the 2010 Bylaws. Gregg Benson made this motion and it was seconded by Kevin Meara. After a vote, the motion was approved. (Y-14; N-0; ABS-1)

Readoption of Regulations

The draft Council regulations proposed for readoption were presented for a vote. The minor revisions proposed to the existing regulations as well as the process for their readoption were discussed at the April Council meeting. Due to a lack of quorum at that meeting the vote was postponed until the May meeting. Chairman Van Ess stated that the regulations are scheduled to expire today and therefore further postponement of the Council vote is not advisable.

After a brief discussion, the draft regulations were approved. They will be forwarded to the Office of Administrative Law for publication in the New Jersey Register, which will open a 60 day public comment period. (Y-9; N-1; ABS-5)

Approval of March and April Minutes

After a brief discussion, the March and April 2014 minutes were approved.

March – (Y-13; N-0; ABS-2)

April – (Y-11; N-0; ABS-4)

Resolution: Alcohol Awareness Month

Acting Executive Director, Celina Gray read a resolution declaring April Alcohol Awareness Month. This resolution was not voted on last month due to lack of a quorum. After a brief discussion, the resolution was approved. (Y-14; N-0; ABS-1)

Resolution: Municipal Alliance Plans

Rebecca Alfaro shared with the Council that the County Plans up for approval today for Atlantic, Cumberland, Hudson, Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex and Somerset had been vetted by the review team as well as GCADA staff. She stated that the approval process is different than prior years in that a scoring system was developed which was used in the evaluation of the plans. Each county coordinator has been made aware of their score. GCADA staff will meet with coordinators individually over the coming weeks to discuss the deficiencies found in their plans and to implement a process for rectifying those issues.

Chairman Van Ess asked that Council members recuse themselves from voting on any county in which they live or have an affiliation. After a vote, the county plans for Atlantic, Cumberland, Hudson, Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex and Somerset were approved. (Y-10; N-0; ABS-3). The following members recused themselves from voting on the counties noted: Frank Greenagel – Middlesex and Hunterdon; Kevin Meara – Mercer; Robert Zlotnick – Atlantic; Fred Zavaglia – Atlantic.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Van Ess announced that the Heroin and Other Opiate Task Force was no longer active. He acknowledged the work of the Task Force members and thanked Frank Greenagel for his role as chairman.

Mr. Van Ess presented Barbara Sprechman, who recently resigned from the Council, with a service recognition award from GCADA for her dedication and commitment as a Council member.

Ms. Sprechman thanked GCADA for the recognition award and said that she was very humbled to have been appointed to the Council.

"Every 15 Minutes" Presentation

Nick Loizzi, Sussex County Alliance Coordinator, introduced students and staff from the Hopatcong High School. Through funding from the Hopatcong Municipal Alliance, the high school runs an alcohol/drunken driving deterrent program called "Every 15 Minutes".

This program is a staged drunk driving motor vehicle accident that raises students' awareness to the dangers of driving while intoxicated. This dramatic program takes place over the course of two days and involves students from the high school, members of the local police department, EMT workers, and as well as local funeral homes and hospitals.

The Hopatcong Municipal Alliance uses less than \$1,000 of its grant money to run this program as much of the resources are donated. Students from the local high school who participated in the program spoke to the Council about the strong emotional impact the dramatization had on them, their families and the community. They said it was very hard for them to see their parent's reactions and emotions to their fictitious injuries and deaths. The students also said that it has been a strong deterrent to them and their friends from getting behind the wheel after consuming alcohol.

"Overdose Responder Training – Emergency Response and Naloxone Use"

Dr. Eilers and Dr. Iheoma from the Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services, presented a PowerPoint overview of the overdose responder training for Naloxone.

The purpose of this training was to show how a bystander, EMT worker or physician can administer Narcan and showed both the signs of overdose and the appropriate life-saving response. Narcan is an antidote for someone who is overdosing from an opioid. It is administered via nasal spray. Dr. Eilers emphasized that once this drug is administered, medical help is still needed.

Celina Gray, suggested that Dr. Eilers and Dr. Iheoma attend the next quarterly county coordinator's meeting in June to present this training.

Acting Executive Director's Report

Celina Gray announced that the anti-stigma campaign on addiction would launch the following day. The launch will be held at 10:30 a.m. at the Jersey Shore Medical Center in Neptune Township. The campaign has been made possible through the collaboration of the Division of Consumer Affairs, the Department of Education, the Attorney General's Office, the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services as well as a number of other private sector entities.

Ms. Gray also shared that the opioid abuse information "warmline" proposed in the recent opiate task force report would be implemented soon.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.