

MINUTES
Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse
December 14, 2010

CALL TO ORDER

The two hundred fifty sixth regular meeting of the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse was called to order at 10:15 a.m. by Acting Chairman Neil Van Ess.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT

Acting Chairman Neil 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).

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was not said due to not having a flag in the Committee Room.

ROLL CALL

Susan Massaro called the roll. Members present and absent were noted for the record (see attached record).

Acting Chairman's Remarks

Acting Chairman Van Ess welcomed everyone to the Council meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Acting Chairman Van Ess asked for a motion to approve the September 21, 2010 minutes as presented to the Council.

Gary Vermeire motioned to approve the September 21, 2010 minutes as presented to the Council; seconded by Gregg Benson. A roll call vote was taken (see attached vote sheet) and the motion carried.

Acting Chairman Van Ess asked for a motion to approve the October 19, 2010 minutes as presented to the Council.

Gary Vermeire motioned to approve the October 19, 2010 minutes as presented to the Council; seconded by Harry Morey. A roll call vote was taken (see attached vote sheet) and the motion carried.

Resolution supporting the transfer of \$1 million in surplus DEDR funds to the Department of Law & Public Safety

Executive Director Powner asked the Council to hold this resolution because the Governor's Policy Office is reviewing the resolution to make sure it is in keeping with the Administration's policy priorities.

Resolution approving 2011 County Alliance Plan updates for DEDR grants

Harry Morey, Chair, asked for a motion to approve the Resolution approving the 2011 County Alliance Plan updates. Executive Director Powner explained that the layout this year is due to the changes being minimal.

Gregg Benson motioned to approved the Resolution presented to the Council; seconded by Gary Vermeire. A roll call vote was taken Betty Ann Cowling-Carson and Dr. Robert Zlotnick recessed from the entire vote and the other Council members recessed from their County (see attached vote sheet). The motion carried.

Introduction of DRAFT Master Plan Update

Betty Ann Cowling Carson mentioned that everyone had a draft copy of the Master Plan at their place settings and thanked Executive Director Powner for putting the plan together. Executive Director Powner thanked Kevin Sullivan, John Varone and Susan Massaro for their work on formatting on the plan. The Master Plan is not paginated because there is some tweaking going on with the narrative and we are still working on the matrix portion of the plan.

Ms. Cowling Carson asked Gary Vermeire if he had anything to add concerning the Master Plan. Mr. Vermeire thanked all his colleagues for getting their information in and Executive Director Powner and the staff for their work on the plan. Executive Director Powner gave a brief overview of how the information is being presented this year on the alliances.

Presentation on planned Vivitrol program

Acting Chairman Van Ess welcomed Ann Wannamaker and Andrea Connor from the Division of Addiction Services to give a power point presentation on the Vivitrol Pilot program. Andrea Connor of DAS, Chief of the Intoxicated Driving Program introduced herself and Ann Wannamaker, Assistant Chief and Manager of the Vivitrol Pilot Program. Ms. Connor began the presentation explaining that the Division of Addiction of Services has a goal to develop a system of care that consistently offers individuals the means to enter and sustain recovery so to this end DAS promotes evidence based practices in the treatment of addictions. One initiative in this area is the Vivitrol Pilot to support the recovery needs of high risk dui offenders. Ms. Connor gave a brief overview of what Vivitrol is, the benefits, supporting documentation and why a Vivitrol Pilot in the DUII.

Ms. Wannamaker took over the presentation saying they have been looking at the numbers for a while and watching the medication vivitrol and for the past two years doing some homework. They started by interviewing clients who had taken vivitrol, site visits with agencies providing vivitrol and gave an overview on what DAS has been doing with this pilot program. Ms. Wannamaker also discussed client admission, client informed choice, agency staffing, affiliation agreements, medication and the vivitrol service package. She finished up with case management data collection, domains to be examined, outcome measures and network providers. Ms. Wannamaker is going to send the power point presentation to the GCADA for anyone who would like a copy.

There were questions from the Council members present and Ms. Wannamaker and Ms. Connor responded to those questions. At the end of the presentation there was information for Ann Wannamaker and Suzanne Borys for anyone who had further questions.

Executive Committee – No Report

Alliance Committee

Harry Morey, Chair, reported that the Committee met on November 9, 2010 and they reviewed and voted on the objectives for 2011. They also discussed trends and areas of need such as the Summit workshop, list of resources for evidence based practices and committee presentations.

Interdepartmental Advisory Panel

Mr. Vermeire spoke during the Master Plan presentation.

Planning Committee – No Report

Criminal/Juvenile Justice Subcommittee

Myrtle Daniels, Chair, reported that the subcommittee has not met but has reviewed a list of interested members and hope to meet in the near future.

Legislative Subcommittee

Kay McGrath, Chair, reported that the Subcommittee met on November 18, 2010 and Candice Singer of NCADD reported on the regulations that have been promulgated by the Governor's Office on the medical marijuana bill which the Governor is not in favor of. There are seventy five pages of regulations and the sponsors of the original bill that was signed into law by Governor Corzine feel that the rules and regulations written by the Department of Health and Senior Services are not in line with the intent of the bill. There was a lengthy discussion regarding medical marijuana after the presentation.

Then Dr. Donald Hallcom was introduced as a new member of the Subcommittee. Dr. Hallcom is the Director of Prevention and Early Intervention, New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Addiction Services, who gave a power point presentation on the key provision of interests to the addiction and mental health field of the recently passed health care reform laws entitled Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. The two most significant aspects of that act that will impact on the addiction and mental health field is the expansion of Medicaid and Parity. Ms. McGrath suggested that Mr. Hallcom do the presentation for the entire Council.

The next meeting will be on January 6, 2011.

Treatment Subcommittee – No Report

Veterans and Military Committee

Neil Van Ess, Chair, reported that Nick Petrozzino, GCADA staff, is compiling information to update the Veterans' Resource guide. The Committee is hoping to have the updated version ready to be sent out in the spring.

Other Business

Robert Zlotnick reported that he attended the Atlantic County Alliance Annual Dinner to recognize volunteers from the various alliances. Evon Judkins of the GCADA was honored with an award that she will receive Friday at the Alliance Coordinator's meeting recognizing her for her years of service.

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Powner mentioned that Evon Judkins is planning on retiring as of March 1, 2010. This is Susan Massaro's Council meeting and will be retiring on December 21, 2010. They will both be a loss to the Council but she has met and talked to the Governor's Office and Treasury Human Resources regarding staffing. Ms. Powner introduced George Myer, a new GCADA staff member, who transferred over from HRDI and has an extensive background in training and putting on trainings. Kay McGrath mentioned how much she appreciated Susan's contribution to GCADA and as additional staff to the Legislative Subcommittee and wished her good luck in the future. Executive Director Powner added that Susan has been an asset to the Council and Katelyn Assenheimer will be stepping into her shoes and will do a wonderful job also.

One of the ideas that Executive Director Powner has that needs to be discussed at the January meeting is request a committee member to help take the minutes for the meeting.

Ms. Powner is pleased to announce that Governor Christie has nominated six new members to the Council. They have been presented to the Senate and we are awaiting their confirmation and there are three layovers and one vacant seat.

There was CADCA training on November 30, 2010 and she is very excited about this training and sees it as an opportunity to move forward in a co-evasive kind of collaborative way at the county level. She gave a brief overview of how these trainings are going to be held.

In recent conversations that will continue after the holiday season, that the Governor's Council on the Municipal Alliance's are a priority in the Governor's Policy Office. There is talk regarding projects that we can undertake and a direction that they will give us to embark upon. There is discussion regarding the DEDR fund and putting back into GCADA, counties and municipalities.

Executive Director Powner wished everyone a Happy Holiday.

Public Comments

Susan Massaro wanted to thank everyone and that it was her pleasure to work and meet each and every one of the Council members. She wanted to really thank the staff of GCADA for helping her through everything she has been through for the last few years and it really has been a pleasure every month. Several of the Council members thanked Susan for her help and services.

Mr. Van Ess also thanked all the Council members for the work they have done over the past year and to have a great Holiday.

Adjournment

Acting Chairman Van Ess adjourned the meeting at 11:55 a.m.

Mary Lou Powner
Executive Director