



State of New Jersey

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE

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Acting Chairman

JOHN L. HULICK, MS, CPS
Acting Executive Director

MINUTES

Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse September 20, 2011

Call to Order

The two hundred sixty fifth regular meeting of the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse was called to order at 10:00 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).

Roll Call

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

Approval of Minutes – August Meeting

The minutes from the August 16th meeting were approved as amended by the members of the Council. (Y-14; N-0; ABS-2)

Mercadien Group Presentation

Warren Brody and Digesh Patel from Mercadien Group Certified Public Accountants gave the Council members a brief overview of the fiscal review they have been conducting on twelve counties over the past year. These audits are part of the corrective action plan that the Governor's Council previously submitted to the Comptroller's Office. At the present time, seven counties have all submitted their plan and staff is reviewing to make sure there is sufficient detail in the response. GCADA staff will then follow up with site visits to the counties.

Jersey City Municipal Alliance – Paul Steffens

Paul Steffens, Coordinator of the Jersey City Alliance, presented the Council members with an overview and highlight of some of the programs and services his Alliance offers.

The Alliance was established in 1991 and Mr. Steffens became the Alliance Coordinator in 2006. Before Mr. Steffens came on board, the money that was awarded to the Alliance was not divided in such a way that the urban communities could access programs that were offered.

Jersey City is very much involved with the Philippine American Friendship Committee as the Asian community is thirty percent of the population. The Alliance also offers a scholarship to students in 1st through 8th grade for a summer camp at the Educational Arts Team. This camp educates students on prevention through arts and music.

Mr. Steffens informed the members that the Alliance provides subcontracting of services, and that all programs offered are scientific evidence based.

Acting Executive Director John Hulick thanked Mr. Steffens for his presentation and explained to the Council members that the purpose of having this presentation and in the future was to show the diversity of what goes on in the State and to familiarize Council Members with Alliance activities.

Summit Wrap-Up

The 20th Annual Governor's Council Summit was held on Friday, September 9th at the Princeton Hyatt. Six hundred people were in attendance and staff received very positive feedback from the event. GCADA staff is looking into holding the Summit at a larger venue next year as well as offering two workshops.

Executive Committee – No Report

Alliance Committee

Chairwoman Erica Morgan informed the Council that the Alliance Committee met on September 13th. Ms. Morgan assigned the members an activity in which to help identify the strengths and weaknesses of the Committee. This information will help the committee in reviewing and revising goals and objectives for 2012. The next meeting will be held on November 1st.

Interdepartmental Advisory Panel – No Report

Planning Committee – No Report

Criminal/Juvenile Justice Subcommittee – No Report

Legislative Subcommittee

The next meeting of the Legislative Subcommittee will be held on October 6th. Acting Executive Director John Hulick will be attending this meeting to provide the members on the direction of where GCADA is headed.

Treatment Subcommittee – No Report

Veterans and Military Ad Hoc Committee –

Nick Petrozzino informed the Council that the Resource Guide will soon be available for distribution. This guide will have twice the amount of information and will also include resources on suicide prevention, stigma of mental illness and childcare for veterans. Mr. Petrozzino thanked Dorinda Sapp of the Department of Military and Veteran's Affairs for her help in making sure all information in this booklet was correct and up to date.

Executive Director's Report

Acting Executive Director John Hulick thanked the staff for their work with the Summit. He also thanked NJPN and the Partnership for a Drug Free New Jersey for lending their staff to help with registration.

Mr. Hulick introduced Kelly Ardente who will be working as his Executive Assistant.

The Recovery Walk will take place at Penn's Landing on September 24th. Over 400 people have registered for bus transportation. Fifteen thousand people are expected to participate in this event.

The last training of the first round of counties to take part in the Coalition Building training will be held at the Freehold Radisson on September 26th – 30th. Staff is working with CADCA in establishing dates for the 2nd and 3rd cohorts.

Public Comments

No comments from the public were made.

Adjournment

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

John Hulick
Acting Executive Director