

Tioga County Drug & Alcohol Planning Council

July 12, 2023

1:30 PM

Board Attendance: Nancy Clemens, Malachi Cunningham, Coleen Evert, Saira Olson, Mark Scaffidi, Diane Weed, Lisa Wood, Joelle Young

Guest Attendance: Commissioner Mark Hamilton, Kimberly Jayne, John Newell, Shane Nickerson, Mellissa Parsons, Sara Rice, Laurie Roof, Colleen Wilbur

Call to Order- Diane called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Secretary's Report- Diane asked the board to review the minutes as presented for the May 17, 2023, and the June 14, 2023 meeting. No discussion or questions. Saira made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Nancy seconded. Motion carried.

Business:

Diane begins the meeting discussing council member terms. Legally we need 1/3 of its members to step down this year beginning in at today's meeting and 1/3 of its members stepping down next year. Since terms weren't selected in the beginning, names were selected from a cup. The following members are being asked to step down this year: Robin Adams, Davy Heck, and Gretchen Sechrist. The following members are being asked to step down next July: Lisa Wood, Mark Scaffidi, and Nancy Clemens. After one year of not serving on the council, and if you would like to come back, you are more than welcome to upon the Commissioner's approval. The Commissioners have approved of the above terms.

I would like to introduce John Newell and we would like to invite him to be on the planning council. John states that he lives in Wellsboro. He has 25 years in drug and alcohol counseling and 8-9 years nursing in a mental health crisis center. John would love to contribute to the planning council. Diane states that she has also invited Katlyn Lutchko, who was unable to attend today, to the planning council. Both individuals shall serve a 3-year term. The Commissioners have approved of the two individuals to be part of the council. We will be recruiting for new members to continue building the planning council board.

Diane called upon Laurie Roof from Harbor to present her proposal for the opioid settlement dollars request. Laurie asked Diane to present the proposal to the board. Diane states that Harbor requested funds to help support their Overdose Awareness Night. Total being requested is \$3,000.00 and it will be put towards advertising/promotions, food, supplies for Narcan, supplies for a balloon launch, lawn maintenance, party preparation, and cleanup. This is their 5th annual event, and each year has grown even bigger. Any questions? Comment- a balloon launch may want to be reconsidered due to them being controversial topic of being environmentally un-friendly. We have found biodegradable balloons.

The second proposal received was for the Walk for Recovery event. There are several organizations joining together to increase awareness for addiction and recovery for mental health and substance use disorders. This group is requesting \$1,500.00 to purchase t-shirts to sell at the event. Whatever money is made from the t-shirts will go towards next years Walk for Recovery event. Questions/Comments? What is the date of the event? September 9th.

We had our annual DDAP audit June 27th, 2023. Overall, we had a good report. There were a few suggestions of things that could be changed and a few minor changes with the contracts. I commend my caseworkers because they are doing a fine job.

Diane asked Kimberly Jayne to introduce herself. She is a registered nurse and is the new community health nurse for Tioga County Pennsylvania Dept. of Health. Kim is not on the planning council board, but is encouraged to attend our meetings.

Our Prevention Plan is now in the system and is set as of July 1, 2023. The plan has stayed the same as last year's to continue the good work that we are doing. We will attend community events and educate the schools. This will be our last year in the current identified needs plan. We will begin the process of another needs assessment so we may identify different needs that need to be addressed. Questions/Comments? Question—Sheriff's Night Out is included in the prevention plan? Yes.

Our office participates in the local treatment court. I spoke with my caseworker, there are currently 13 people participating in drug court and recently 5 individuals graduated. Lisa states that drug court started in January 2017. The judge orders the individual to treatment court. There are guidelines that need to be followed: they have to have 2 drug tests per week, meet with probation weekly, and meet with case management weekly until they reach a certain level. There are 5 different levels. The first level is 60 days, and the remaining levels are 90 days. We know that there is a chance for relapse so there is a limit of how long they must be sober to go into the next phase. When they transition into each phase, they are given money towards what they owe to the court. They must attend counseling whenever it is recommended by their counselor, and attend AA meetings. They are supposed to build new

activities in place of using drugs. Lisa continues to go monthly to support them. This program is an option for those who want to make a change and we have had many successes with the program. Question- have you gone through the accreditation process with AOPC for your court? No. What is your main funding source for treatment court? IP dollars. It will open yourself up for other funding sources if you get accredited. Saira states that their coordinator applied for a drug court grant through PCCD however that is already used up and the only source is the IP monies. The accreditation helps with fidelity to make sure you are doing things to the principles of the treatment courts. It gives you an overall look at how well your court is functioning.

The Commissioners have approved a drug and alcohol supervisor position that will supervise the caseworkers which will allow me to do more of the administration responsibilities. We will also be looking for a drug and alcohol caseworker.

The Walk for Recovery event is quickly approaching. We will be selling t-shirts, having a silent auction, inviting speakers, and musicians. It is scheduled for September 9th on the Green in Wellsboro. We will be giving away the Deterra bags and demonstrating Narcan. This is a wonderful event to celebrate recovery.

Our next meeting is August 9th at the Tokishi building and virtually. We will need to vote on new officers at this meeting.

Lisa motioned to close the Planning Council meeting; Saira seconded. Meeting Adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Submitted By:

Diane Weed
Diane Weed
D&A Assistant Administrator

Saira A. Olson
Saira Olson
Secretary