



## State of New Jersey

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE

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### MINUTES

Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse

August 20, 2013

CHRIS CHRISTIE  
*Governor*

KIM GUADAGNO  
*Lt. Governor*

NEIL VAN ESS  
*Acting Chairman*

JOHN L. HULICK, MS, CPS  
*Executive Director*

#### Call to Order

The two hundred eighty third 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

Mr. 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 July Minutes

After a brief discussion, the July minutes were approved as amended. (Y-11; N-0; ABS-4)

#### Presentation of Service Awards to Tyrone Richardson and Douglas Collier

Tyrone Richardson, who will be leaving the Council due to a reassignment within his department, and Douglas Collier who recently retired from the Drug Enforcement Agency were presented with service awards for the work they have contributed to the Governor's Council over the past few years. Elected Chairman Van Ess thanked them for their commitment and hard work.

#### Chairman's Report

Mr. Van Ess informed Council members that the contract with the consulting firm, the Innovations Collaborative, had been terminated. The firm had been hired to assist the Council in developing the opiate task force report and Blueprint. Mr. Van Ess stated that Tom Calcagni, First Assistant Attorney General, had offered and provided the services of his office and staff member, Ron Susswein, to assist in drafting the Heroin and Other Opiate Use by New Jersey's Youth and Young Adults Task Force report.

Mr. Van Ess asked the Council to approve the extension, for an additional 30 days, of the reinstatement of the Council bylaws which were in effect in 2010. The 2010 bylaws were those that were in force prior to the revisions approved in 2012. After a vote, the extension was approved. (Y-11; N-0; ABS-2)

### **Presentation of Revised Draft Bylaws**

Council member Kevin Meara introduced the revised draft bylaws to the Council. Mr. Meara informed the Council that after voting to approve the introduction of the revised bylaws, members had a minimum of 30 days to review and recommend changes, before they would be asked to vote for final adoption. Notable proposed changes include assigning the Council chairman the responsibility of creating the agenda as well as opening committee meetings to Council members. After a discussion, the introduction of the revised bylaws was approved. (Y-9; N-0; ABS-6)

### **Task Force on Heroin and Other Opiate Use by NJ's Youth and Young Adults Update**

Task force chairman Frank Greenagel informed the Council that the task force report was in the process of being finalized. The task force members will meet on Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> to discuss how the report will be introduced and how media and press coverage will be handled.

The task force members will also be involved in a panel discussion at the GCADA Summit on Thursday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at the New Brunswick Hyatt.

A meeting has been scheduled for November 15<sup>th</sup> from 10am-2pm in the Statehouse Annex for task force members to discuss the issue of substance abuse treatment within the criminal justice system.

### **Alliance Update**

Acting Executive Director Celina Gray presented to the Council members the new Alliance grant funding allocations for counties. Funding distributions have changed due mostly to county population shifts. After a vote, the funding allocations for the 2014-2019 grant cycle were approved. (Y-8; N-0; ABS-1)

Ms. Gray informed the Council that the grant term would be changed to five years based on best practices. After a vote, the five year grant term was approved. (Y-9; N-0; ABS-1)

### **AATOD Conference in Philadelphia**

Acting Executive Director Celina Gray stated there had been previous consideration of a co-sponsorship of the American Association for the Treatment of Opioid Dependence, Inc. conference in Philadelphia. Ms. Gray proposed the Council pass on the \$5,000 sponsorship. After a discussion, the proposal was approved. (Y-9; N-0; ABS-5)

### **Approval of Sponsorship for 2013 Bergen County Rally for Recovery**

Celina Gray informed the Council that previous arrangements had been made for the Council to contribute \$1,000 towards the 2013 Bergen County Rally for Recovery. After a discussion, the co-sponsorship was approved. (Y-5; N-4; ABS-5)

### **Acting Executive Director's Report**

Celina Gray informed the Council that through the assistance of GCADA member Bill Haldeman, the New Jersey Department of Education had issued a letter of support for teachers to attend Governor's Council sponsored trainings, including this year's Summit which will be held on Thursday, September 12<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Gray shared that that the Summit workgroup had worked very hard in selecting this year's workshops as well as selecting the Statewide Volunteer of the Year award recipient.

### **Other Council Business**

Robert Zlotnick informed Council members that Governor Christie had vetoed the student survey bill. He also shared that there would be a recovery rally on September 28<sup>th</sup> in Atlantic City.

Paul Ressler announced to the Council that he had information and fliers regarding the Overdose Prevention Act and would distribute them at the end of the meeting.

Gregg Benson shared that the Mental Health Association of Morris County had signed a proclamation on August 14<sup>th</sup> declaring August Recovery Month.

### **Adjournment**

Elected Chairman Neil Van Ess adjourned the meeting at 12:04 p.m.