

**WNY Chemical Dependency Consortium
Board of Directors Meeting
Friday, February 18, 2022
Virtual Meeting**

Time start: 11:00

End time: 11:58

Members Present:

Matt Smith X

Beth Anzalone X

Melanie Witkowski x

Ed Cichon x

Robin Mann x

Bill Penman

Jackie West x

Jodie Altman x

Shannon Ford x

Bruce Nisbet x

Mike Prutsman x

Jennifer Seib

Tye Pope x

Approval of minutes:

Ed Cichon-first

Melanie Witkowski –second

Treasurer's report: Bill Penman was unable to be there. Matt Smith gave a general report. Finances remain status quo. Membership will be going up for 2022 to \$200.00. For 2021 all agencies have paid their membership dues! Great job Bill!

The group also discussed the possibility of having MOU's with the consortium. It has been brought up by OASAS several times at agency site visits. It was discussed that with the membership letter some wording will be added to have it serve as an MOU. A Signature line will be provided as to secure partnerships.

Board news: We all welcomed Shannon Ford and Mike Prutsman as new members of the board. Both are happy to join.

To address the representation in Niagara County Jackie West shared they have offices in Lockport. Melanie shared she has reached out to Star Wheeler but has not heard back. We will continue to reach out and see if we can invite new members to the group.

WNYCDC Website. Things remain the same, no new information. Kate Chudoba (WNY United) will continue to add any new campaign information –Take It to the Box will, Movie Advertisement and other SOR projects will continue to be added.

Please remember to send any information to Kchudoba@wnyunited.org at WNY United

SOR-Matt presented the regional "Take it to The Box" campaign overseen by Preventionfocus This will also be shown in movie theaters across the area as well as Red Box locations and billboards Look forward to another campaign starting in April to support National Take Back Day. Stickers and palm cards are available.

National Drug Take Back day will be held April 30, 2022.

Training update: Two training events will be planned sponsored by the CDC.

Spring, April: Harm Reduction

June: Cultural Responsiveness

These two trainings can be held at NACS if Covid allows us to meet in person

October will be the annual luncheon. We will try and get the new Commissioner to be the guest speaker.

Ed did reach out to Jeremy Klemanski and he suggested we contact Just Health Collaborative to get some trainers.

As we stand now, these will be held virtually. If things change we can pivot and meet in person at NACS.

TruTox –Matt will try and reach out to see if there are any updates for the state wide training

Updates: Tye Pope shared that Peer Workforce is up and running in all 8 counties. This will help with training for Peer Service delivery.

The collaborative with Best Self and Prevention Focus is still going. Review from participants have all been positive

Committee Reports

Prevention: Melanie Witkowski

Prevention discussed two goals for 2022

1. CPP/CPS mentoring program to be put in place for people who are preparing for the exam
2. Work on preparing a Showcase where Prevention providers can share best practice and programs that individual agencies provide can be shared with others.
3. Training for new staff and others on Marijuana law updates and policies

The group also discussed the new Prevention Guidelines. Beth Shared that ASAP is preparing a document with suggestion questions and changes to be submitted to OASAS. Suggestions and changes can be forwarded to ASAP By March 7.

Treatment: Jodie Altman reported

Opiate Task force-quarterly meeting. Videos will be on line soon.

It was discussed that they would like to expand their reach and work with other area, not just opiates.

Administrative Relief Committee-Jody sits on this committee. They are putting together a panel to provide information to primary care providers.

Value Network-a. OASAS Grant underway –Transportation & barriers to care-working our contracts

b. Community connector-pilot will be wrapping up soon-should start in April

OASAS:

Part 856-a.Tobacco webinar 2/24/22

b. vaccine webinars continue

c.DOH addendum #5RFA

d. 800,815,830 Ammendments on website

e. Telehealth infrastructure RFA

f. Prevention guidelines-comments due by March 24th

Part 830 Telehealth/Telephonic regs-extended for 60 days, State budget for parity to become permanent

Public Policy: Ed Cichon

Ed reviewed and prepared group for the upcoming legislative meeting on February 25 at 2:00 pm

7 people have responded-he is hoping a few more will RSVP

He invited all WNYCDC members to attend. He shared the recommendations for NYS Council (Laurie Cole)

Excited that for the first time in a very long time, money is coming to the field. We need to get clarity on how this will actually all come down.

Discussion about the 5.4% COLA and also the health care bonuses. Prevention will be included as far as we can see from the current language. There is so much to sort through and Ed has broken it down for all of us to understand. The group thanked Ed for all his work in Public policy. We are so grateful!

Meeting ended at 11:39

Board terms

Matt Smith 10/22

Beth Anzalone 10/23

Jodie Altman 12/23

Robin Mann 10/22

Ed Cichon 10/22

Bill Penman 10/22

Jackie West 10/24

Mike Prutsman 2/25

Jennifer Seib 10/22

Tye Pope 10/23

Melanie Witkowski 10/24

Bruce Nisbet 10/24

Shannon Ford 2/25