

**WNY Chemical Dependency Consortium  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Friday November 19, 2021 2021  
Virtual Meeting**

**Time start: 11:00**

**End time: 11:45**

**Members Present:**

|                    |               |                 |
|--------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Matt Smith X       | Bill Penman x | Ty Pope         |
| Beth Anzalone X    | Jackie West   | Jennifer Seib x |
| Melanie Witkowski  | Jodi Altman x |                 |
| Rachel Linderman x | Ed Cichon x   |                 |
| Robin Mann x       | Bruce Nisbet  |                 |

**Approval of minutes:**

Jody Altman-first

Bill Penman- second

**Approval of October minutes:** Robin Mann-1<sup>st</sup>  
Rachel Linderman-2<sup>nd</sup>

Board members new terms: 3 year terms

Rachel Linderman

Jackie West

Bruce Nisbet

Melanie Witkowski

Matt Smith made the first motion to accept

Jody Altman –second

Rachel refrained as it was her term being voted on  
Discussion took place about replacing Sherri Bensely  
We need someone from Genesee and Orleans counties  
Matt will reach out and see if he can find a replacement  
Shannon Ford was recommended as well as Kathy Hodges

**Treasurer's report:** Bill Penman gave the report

No new expenses. Change in balance due to payment of bills from the Gold Key Awards, the Luncheon speaker, the lunch itself at Classic V and the ASAP membership. Total spent: \$5,990.00

We have \$16,429.06 in Checking account

Bill suggested that for the coming year we increase membership to \$160.00 and keep the Luncheon fee the same

Matt seconded that motion.

Discussion: Jen added that we ask for a fee that reflects each agency's budget.

Matt then suggested we raise the fee to \$200.00 and that hardship case would be excluded. Robin added that this was important to continue to bring professional speakers to the group as our accesses to conferences are limited at this time.

Matt brought the motion to the floor and it was passed.

Members still outstanding: NACS and Brylin

Bill will send another email to the contact person for those two outstanding agencies

**Membership:** Unchanged

**WNYCDC Website.** Things remain the same, no new information. Kate Chudoba (WNY United) will be adding the new CDC campaign once it is decided on and materials completed.

Please remember to send any information to [Kchudoba@wnyunited.org](mailto:Kchudoba@wnyunited.org) at WNY United

**Luncheon debrief: October 15, 2021**

**Treatment comments:** liked the event, no complaints or no issues.

**Prevention comments:** Enjoyed the luncheon, date was appreciated and Speaker was engaging

The group agreed it would be a great idea to keep the date in October! Also bring in great speakers allows the opportunity for some trainings hours and information since it's difficult because of budget constraints, to send staff to training throughout the year.

**SOR:** The project is moving along. Media campaign is working in all counties on Take Back Days as well as Take it to the Box Campaign. Red Box locations and theater advertisements are in full swing. The spring will follow suite with the same campaigns.

**December Meeting:** Discussion took place regarding the December meeting continuing to be a hybrid. It was decided to make this meeting a virtual meeting. Members feel it's the safest decision during this time.

Jen suggested we take another look at "in person" in the spring depending on how the virus shakes out.

**2022 CDC Meeting dates:**

CDC will continue to meet on the third Friday of every month. Prevention will have a new chair, Melanie Witkowski and treatment and public policy agreed on this time frame. Matt will work on the dates for next meeting and if something comes up, we will make adjustments.

**Announcements:** Jen shared that Best self received a 5 year SAMSHA grant. It will help fund a virtual call center for MAT. They will use the NY matters format but with collaboration it will make it 24/7 and build an infrastructure .it will guide Direction, rapid access and MAT linkage to better service.

**Committee reports:** Prevention

In January Melanie Witkowski will take over as Prevention chair.

Prevention shared their continued their discussion of the SOR grant.

Discussion on Workforce development. Beth Shared her experiences working with OASAS to change FTE's and provide a salary increase for all staff across the board.

**Treatment:** Jody Altman

Group discussed the conversation from the Opiate Task Force.

Discussed the Administrative relief Committee that Jody attends  
SOR discussion  
Part 830 Telehealth/telephonic regs; Emergency extended to December 24th  
No Covid updates but continue to report vaccine numbers  
822 regs-pilot reviews with new instrument have been started  
Value network-Social determinants of health project and platform were discussed.  
\*health links to be provided  
VBC with primary care offices to be integrated  
Applying for Federal block grant funds-transportation and access to care

### **Public Policy-Ed Cichon**

- Federal Update: Build back better legislation could have some promise for funding
- State Update; New Commissioner of OASAS was announced
- New commissioner of DOH
- Advocacy push for the Governors budget
- Ed will keep us posted with any new updates as we move to the new year

**Meeting Ended: 11:45**

### **2021 Calendar:**

1/15, 2/19, 3/19, /4/16, 5/21, 6/11, 7/16, 8/20, 9/17, 10/15, 11/19, 12/17.  
We moved the June meeting to 6/11 due to the Juneteenth holiday

**Next meeting: January 20, 2022**

### **Board terms**

Matt Smith 10/22

Beth Anzalone 10/23

Rachel Linderman 10/24

Robin Mann 10/22

Ed Cichon 10/22

Bill Penman 10/22

Jackie West 10/25

Jodi Altman 12/25

Jennifer Seib 10/22

Melanie Witkowski 10/21

Melanie Witkowski 10/24

Bruce Nisbet 10/24

Ty Pope 10/24