

**Substance Abuse Services Commission  
Meeting of April 9, 2014  
State Office, Cross Building, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room #600  
Augusta, Maine**

**ATTENDANCE**

**Members Present:**

Peter McCorison, Chair  
Robert Rogers  
Lee Anne Dodge  
Darren Ripley  
Scott Gagnon  
Ann Giggey  
Thomas Leonard (by phone)

**Members Absent/Excused:**

Irene Laney  
Bill Lowenstein  
Michael Savage  
Diehl Snyder, MD  
Rep. Carol A. McElwee  
Rep. Katherine Cassidy  
Rep. Peter Stuckey  
Senator Colleen Lachowicz  
Rep. Ann Dorney

**Office of Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services:**

Guy Cousins, Director, SAMHS

**Guests:**

Ruth Blauer, Director, MASAP  
Raya Kouletsis, Director, MAPSA  
Neill Miner, AdCare Maine  
Deborah Doiron, AdCare Maine, Recorder

**Substance Abuse Services Commission  
Meeting of April 9, 2014  
State Office, Cross Building, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room #600  
Augusta, Maine**

**APRIL AMENDED MINUTES**

<b>DRAFT Date:</b> <b>FINAL Date: With Amendments</b>	<b>April 14, 2014</b> <b>May 19, 2014</b>	<b>SASC Approved:</b>	
<b>Signed:</b> Recorded by: Deborah Doiron, AdCare Maine			

**Meeting Convened:** 9:00 A.M.

**Adjourned:** 12:00

**Meeting Convened:** By Peter McCorison

**Agenda:**

- General Meeting Opening: Introductions, Review Agenda; Acceptance of Minutes; Public Forum

**New Business:**

- SAMHS Update
- Outcome of PMP work
- Scott Gagnon's presentation to members on Marijuana
- Marijuana in the State of Maine – The Commission's Position
- Overdose deaths in the State of Maine

**Old Business:**

- Recovery Capital
- Written invitation to candidates

**Prepare Agenda Items for Next Meeting on May 14, 2014**

**Adjourn meeting**

## **SASC Meeting - General Opening Statements**

### **Peter McCorison, Chairperson Introductions and Public Comments**

Peter McCorison began meeting with introductions. There were no comments from the public.

Peter announced that Guy was at another meeting and would be coming later.

Peter went over items on the agenda. Peter said he had received some correspondence since our last meeting from Jayne Harper stating that she would like to attend a Commission meeting and show a video “Anonymous People” regarding people in Recovery. This is an 88 minute documentary film. Peter states this would be a way to educate ourselves on recovery, the recovery movement and how support systems can play a big role in maintaining an individual’s recovery. Darren Ripley said that MASAP would be willing to reserve a room and equipment at their location for Jayne Harper’s presentation. Peter stated that before we invite Jayne to a meeting it would be good to make some progress on the Commission’s discussions regarding the value of Recovery Capital. Peter said he will reach out to SAMHS.

**Conclusions or Actions: Making a request in writing to Guy Cousins and SAMHS regarding the value of recovery; Lead Person: Darren Ripley; no timeframe was established**

Tom Leonard asked Peter if there was any way to get information on health insurance plans and what they cover? Peter felt the Commission could at some point look at those things. Peter states that we can have a discussion with insurance providers and state officials and SAMHS. He also talked about the need for more information about signing up for affordable health care. Rob Rodgers informed the group that he has been speaking with probation officers. The probation officers are having their probationers’ call the state helpline and they have been able to obtain coverage for \$5.00 a month and using it. Peter states he will work with SAMHS and identify who we need to work with and then invite them to a future meeting. This information will be very informative to all members.

**Conclusions or Actions: Contact SAMHS and identify who the Commission needs to work with on insurance coverage issues; Lead Person: Peter McCorison; no timeline was established**

Leanne Dodge mentioned that Maine was on the Today Show regarding the drug Narcan and noted that the Administration’s position on the bill has evolved and is now in support of the final version of the legislation.

## **NEW BUSINESS - April Agenda**

### **Topic #1 – Review of Minutes of Previous Meeting – all members**

Discussions: feedback on minutes

Neill, Peter and Deb have discussed changing the format of the minutes and will be testing the format recommended by Peter in the April meeting. Commission members are encouraged to give feedback as to whether or not it meets their needs. We will be using a Plan to Study Act (PSA) for a couple of months. Peter also stated that because the Commission does not have the capacity to create legislation, he doesn't feel we would need to have a public record based on verbatim minutes. If this format doesn't meet our needs, we can look at something else.

#### **Conclusions or Actions: Motion for Acceptance and Seconded**

**Motion accepted for February 12, 2014 Minutes**

**Motion accepted with corrections or amendments to be made to previous month's minutes, Responsible Lead Person – Deb Doiron**

**List Changes Made:**

**Deborah Doiron will be using the new format for a couple of months to see if this format will work.**

### **Topic #2 – SAMHS Update – Guy Cousins, Director of SAMHS**

Discussion Items:

- 1) Staffing changes – Leanne Morin will be leaving to take another position; Amy Curtis has changed her position and is now a Case Manager for the DEEP Intervention Team; Carl Parker from DEEP has retired, leaving a call-center position to fill; SAMHS's has permission to fill Amy Curtis's prevention position; the Prevention Team has two vacant positions and also someone out on a medical leave. The Treatment and Recovery Team has an opening for a manager of education and training – promoting work first model.
- 2) Prevention Team is moving forward on prevention credentialing. They are also doing a lot of mental health prevention.
- 3) Currently working on a draft with a media contractor
- 4) MIYS – schools have been getting their information; a lot of HMP work being done; we now have some great data;
- 5) CSAP visit will be happening on April 29<sup>th</sup> – May 1<sup>st</sup>;
- 6) Treatment Team – CSAT will be visiting in July; Mary McKean will be spending one day with SAMHS and then will be visiting providers
- 7) Problem Gambling Awareness Conference in March – had over 60 people attend;

Topics discussed:

- a) nine prevention pilot sites in the state are providing gambling information
  - b) developing self-exclusion forms with the state and the casino's
  - c) public education efforts
- 8) Two RFP's: Final draft of Peer RFP funded by the Mental Health Block Grant and RFP for Crisis Services will serve across the whole State;
  - 9) DEEP is updating the DEEP Manual and scheduling their annual provider meetings

- 10) Treatment – DSAT providers site visits; Amy & Gerry are doing site visits and offering technical assistance
- 11) Drug Court Week – Guy met with Chief Saufley; SAMHS’s need for more effective, mobile and flexible drug courts; the courts are now taking a look at the ten core elements that drug courts need to be utilizing to see if they are following best practices; Justice Kennedy from the Androscoggin’s Drug Court has been running a spectacular program and appears to be one of our most valued leaders in the Drug Court System. She has been using sculpting and making the drug courts a priority;
- 12) Behavioral Health Homes – launched on April 1<sup>st</sup>; dealing with people with severe MH and SA clients; a lot of learning going on right now; we will continue to evaluate the process; we now have a frequently asked questions fact sheet developed for reference to avoid confusion.
- 13) Carl Pendelton, CEO of Sweetser is retiring; Harbor Family Services is merging with Sweetser effective on July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- 14) SAT-ED Cooperative Agreement with SAMHSA of \$900,000.00; a three year agreement has created an Advisory Council to develop and promote evidence based practices for adolescent in substance abuse treatment
- 15) Warren lawsuit regarding methadone clinic
- 16) Hope Conference, May 30th; Quality Management - Anne Rogers and her group is working with HID; SAMHS received 5,000 PMP registrations in February;
- 17) Quality Management – Anne Rogers and her group is working with HID;
- 18) PMP – SAMHS received 5,000 PMP registrations in February; there is currently no capacity to do promulgations of rules for the PMP; the challenge was that the last person to work on this was Dan Echer, so we thought we had everything done, but by the time we received the Governor’s signature, we had gone past the due date, so we have to start the process over again. SAMHS’s will have to resubmit this for the January 2015 session;
- 19) Block Grant – MOE – Maintenance of Effort Agreement - matching expenditures at a percentage rate; This year we are at a deficit of \$44,000, which really isn’t too bad; there is a waiver process that can be used; Guy had a call yesterday and SAMHSA hasn’t made a decision yet;
- 20) Ruth Blauer updated the members on the Medicaid expansion at the legislature.

**Conclusions or Actions and Lead Person; timeline if applicable:**

**Not applicable.**

**Topic #3 – Report Out on Commission’s  
PMP Recommendations – Peter McCorison**

Discussions:

Peter McCorison reported out on the work that the Commission did to assist with the promotion of prescribers for signing up for the PMP. The Commission recommended that there be no costs to the SAMHS budget associated with this legislation and that the State would need to look elsewhere to cover the costs. The report was well received and moved through the Legislature and was passed on by the Senate and the House.

**Conclusions or Actions and Lead Person; timeline if applicable: Not applicable.**

## **Topic #4 - Presentation on Marijuana by Scott Gagnon, Manager, Healthy Androscoggin**

### **Discussions:**

Scott Gagnon began his presentation by going over the **5 Key Prevention Messages** handout with the Commission Members. Topics discussed were:

- 1) Marijuana movements and the states involved with this legalization movements
- 2) Discussed concerns – marijuana much more potent now than in the past; negative health risks, especially for youth; impaired driving risks; medical and recreational marijuana; how to determine or measure unsafe levels of intoxication with marijuana
- 3) Individual Future Success in Life – what impact will this have on education, work productivity and our economy
- 4) Addiction – evidence-based research
- 5) Perception of harm – educating the public by getting more scientific information and awareness out in the community regarding the potential health effects and the costs to society.

Scott asked if there were any questions or comments. Leanne stated she felt that we should focus more on the health effects of youth, rather than adults for now. Scott said he has been doing this through his work with the HMP groups. Rob said he mostly agree with this, but he feels we should still keep the adults in mind, especially where the measurement of intoxication level is concerned and employment issues. Peter suggested that there needs to be some sort of guideline or policy component in order to assist employers with concerns about employees who may be using medical marijuana. Guy Cousins and Ann Giggey suggested looking at the cost across the continuum and long term outcomes and the need to incorporate this into conversations. Peter recommended looking at other countries for this information. All members agreed there are many different issues to consider.

**Conclusions or Actions and Lead Person; timeline if applicable: Not applicable.**

## **Topic #5 - Marijuana in the State of Maine, The Commission's Non-Biased Position**

### **Discussions:**

Peter asked the Commission again how they felt about developing a non-biased document to provide information to the Governor, Legislature and the Citizens of the State of Maine to form a discussion about the policy issues around the Marijuana legalization movement. Members were in agreement that there should be a document created. It was also suggested that we check in with Colorado and Washington regarding their cost reports to see if these states have found that they have been bringing in enough revenue to cover health costs and other related issues associated with the new laws in their states.

### **Additional topics discussed:**

- 1) Prevention efforts as it relates to the marijuana movement
- 2) Focus on the fact that people are currently being arrested for driving under the influence of marijuana or other drugs; not just alcohol

- 3) Use data from the TDS system to support facts
- 4) Listing 10 to 20 of the most costly issues associated with legalization that we want to explore to find out the challenges these represent; marijuana is non-standardized, so there could be some legal issues resulting from this; what are the costs and the risks; Guy offered technical assistance, equipment and a location for a sub-group to meet;

**Conclusions or Actions and Lead Person; timeline if applicable:**

**Start a sub-committee to draft a non-bias document to be used as a reference fact sheet;**

**Lead Person: Peter McCorison, Volunteers to participate in sub-committee will be: Scott Gagnon, Rob Rogers and LeeAnne Dodge; timeline – Peter McCorison will schedule a time for a meeting to be held before the May Commission Meeting – will report out at May Meeting**

**BREAK**

**Topic #6 - Overdose deaths in the State of Maine – all members**

Discussions:

**This topic will be brought forward to May's Agenda.**

**Conclusions or Actions and Lead Person; timeline if applicable: Not applicable.**

**OLD BUSINESS – April Agenda**

**Topic #1 – Recovery Capital – all members**

Discussions:

Discussion of developing a document that defines and strengthens the value of recovery, cost savings and employment. Bill, Mike and Darren originally were going to initiate this process, but due to illness and scheduling issues the process hasn't happened yet. The Commission and the sub-committee group will need to come up with a written request to submit to SAMHS for assistance with this project. Peter feels it is important that this Old Business topic continue to stay on the monthly agenda, until the Commission can make something happen.

- 1) Darren Ripley talked about Bill White's evaluation form and its usefulness in gathering recovery information from individuals statewide. He feels it covers all of the aspects of recovery. Peter would also like to see some sort of assessment on recovery cost savings. Darren suggested that the word "Capital" be removed from the reference "Recovery Capital" going forward.
- 2) Guy stated that the Data Resource Team can assist with the collection of Admission and Discharge information, but it would be very difficult to gather data on an individual after that person has been discharged. SAMHS will assist with whatever information they have available to them for the Commission's use in developing this recovery document.
- 3) Darren Ripley volunteered to be the Lead Person in starting a sub-committee for recovery and drafting written language to present to SAMHS for assistance with the development of this recovery document.

**Conclusions or Actions and Lead Person; timeline if applicable:  
Start a Recovery Sub-Committee; Lead Person: Darren Ripley; no timeline was established**

**Topic #2 – Inviting Candidates to SASC Meeting:**

Another topic discussed last February was inviting candidates to attend one of the Commission Meetings. Everyone was in agreement this should occur. A letter needs to be created to invite the candidates to a meeting for sometime late summer or early fall. This letter will be sent out after the Commission finishes developing their marijuana position and fact sheet. Peter states it would be good to have the Marijuana document completed before we invite candidates. He feels it is important to have a document ready to distribute to the candidates at the meeting.

**Conclusions or Actions: Contact Guy Cousins, Director, SAMHS; Lead Person: Peter McCorison; no timeline was established**

**Prepare Agenda Items for the next meeting on May 14, 2014**

**May Agenda:**

**Review Minutes**

**Report out on Marijuana work group efforts to define scope of paper**

**SAMHS report out**

**Information of Affordable Health care coverage in Maine and Parity**

**Old Business:**

**Overdose deaths in Maine**

**Recovery**

**Adjourned Meeting**

**SASC MEETING LOCATION FOR MAY THRU DECEMBER 2014:**

**SAMHS**

**DHHS Building, Conference Room C**

**41 Anthony Avenue**

**Augusta, Me. 04330**

**TIME OF MEETINGS:**

**9:00 – 12:00**