

Tioga County Drug & Alcohol Planning Council

March 15, 2023

1:30 PM

Board Attendance: Robin Adams, Nancy Clemens, Davy Heck, Saira Olson, Mark Scafidi, Gretchen Sechrist, Diane Weed, Lisa Wood, Joelle Young

Guest Attendance: Theresa Bird, Janice Chamberlain, Commissioner Erick Coolidge, Commissioner Mark Hamilton, Mellissa Parsons, Marc Rice, Sara Rice, Laurie Roof, Colleen Wilbur, Mary Wilson

Call to Order- Robin called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence.

Secretary's Report- Saira asked the board to review the minutes as presented for the January 11, 2023 meeting. No discussion or questions. Lisa made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Saira seconded. Motion Carried
Saira asked the board to review the minutes as presented for the February 15, 2023 meeting. No discussion or questions. Mark Scafidi made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, Saira seconded. Motion carried.

Business:

Diane begins by stating that we have three planning council members that currently hold contracts with the county through different service lines; Robin Adams, Nancy Clemens, and Joelle Young. We would like to send a letter to the Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP) for a waiver request for these council members for transparency purposes. The letter has been drafted and will need to be signed by Davy Heck, Vice-Chair. No questions or concerns from the Planning Council.

The Partnership is continuing to look for another prevention specialist. They have had a few interviews that didn't work out. We will be using SOR dollars for prevention to purchase Terra Bags to disperse through the county for disposal of medications. Nancy mentions that Children and Youth may have Terra Bags available that they could distribute as well. We are also looking at hosting a community fun night at Liberty High School. We would like to utilize the Culinary Arts of Mansfield for this event.

Regarding the Opioid Settlement Dollars we receive, we have come up with a process for those interested in requesting funds. We will be posting on the Tioga County website a link to the settlement funds. This link will give an explanation of the funds, links to various articles regarding the dollars, and how one can request/apply for settlement funds. We are requesting that whoever requests/applies for the funds submit an electronic proposal to Mellissa Parsons. The proposal should include the following: name and address of the provider/organization, name of service, category of service, target clientele, identified need/description of service, brief description of service and how it meets the identified need, amount of funds being requested, estimated total cost of the program with breakout of costs(budget), if program will be billed as Fee for Service—state the fee (unit cost), projected outcomes, and the program sustainability plan. Once the proposal is submitted, we will then email that to all of the planning council members for review prior to the next meeting. We will ask this organization/individual to plan on attending the meeting to present their proposal and answer follow up/clarification questions regarding the proposal. We will then send the proposal to the County Commissioners for final review/approval. There may be times when a need arises internally that we will need to use these funds. If this happens, we will inform the planning council at the next meeting what we used the funds for. Nancy mentions we could reach out to the Partnership and Develop Tioga to spread the word. Diane mentions that she has been spreading the word at various meetings with providers. Mark Scafidi states that he likes this plan, and we could possibly spread the word to the prison, police department, faith-based organizations, children service providers, and mental health service providers. Mark mentions that we could also look into hiring a part-time employee to help manage these funds. Robin requests that in the proposals being submitted that the program sustainability be optional as an organization may request a small one-time request that will not require a sustainability plan. Commissioner Erick Coolidge states that the money being received sounds like a significant amount but when you look at the need, it really isn't. The money needs to go to a place where there is a self-sustaining plan.

Diane states that she has met with the superintendents for all the school districts in Tioga County and we have identified the need for a drug and alcohol counselor in the schools. The County Commissioners have approved of this so we will be putting an RFP out. Joelle states that CONCERN receives data directly from the school districts and they are going to provide data and help where the need is. CONCERN has a lot of children with dual diagnoses. We have been struggling to get services at Cowanesque High School—the current principal states there isn't any need. Mr. Kris Kauffman is stepping in and is aware of the barriers that we are facing and he said he will try to resolve the situation. Saira states all the drug and alcohol referrals that probation receives is mostly from Wellsboro Area School District. Laurie Roof states that Harbor received a grant for four years and began last fall to have an individual in the schools, Ashley Kohler, MSW. What is the timeline to have the drug & alcohol counselor in the schools? The goal is to implement them into the school prior to the next school year.

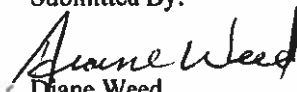
Diane states that Tioga County does not have the means to distribute Narcan in the community and I feel this needs to change. We

would like to have Narcan available at local motels, universities, and other locations. I have reached out to the local police departments and EMT's to see how much Narcan they are using. It is understood that Narcan will not solve the drug issue, however it will help keep people alive. Laurie from Harbor states that they can give some Narcan out as well. Robin mentions that across the states there are Narcan dispensers.

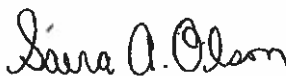
Diane dispersed a Plans of Safe Care poster to all the planning council members. She asked that each of them posts them throughout the county. If they would like more to disperse, please reach out and we will be sure to give them more.

Lisa motioned to close the Planning Council meeting, Siara seconded. Meeting Adjourned at 2:12 p.m.

Submitted By:



Diane Weed
D&A Assistant Administrator



Saira Olson
Secretary