

**Substance Abuse Services Commission
Meeting of June 11, 2014
State Office, DHHS, Conference Room C
41 Anthony Avenue
Augusta, Maine**

ATTENDANCE

Members Present:

Peter McCorison, Chair
Robert Rogers
Lee Ann Dodge
Darren Ripley
Thomas Leonard
Irene Laney
Scott Gagnon
Ann Giggey
Rep. Ann Dorney (Phone)

Members Absent/Excused:

Bill Lowenstein
Diehl Snyder, MD
Rep. Carol A. McElwee
Rep. Katherine Cassidy
Rep. Peter Stuckey
Senator Collee Lachowica

Office of Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services:

Guy Cousins, Director, SAMHS

Guests:

Ruth Blauer, Executive Director, MASAP
Anna Black, SAT-ED Coordinator, SAMHS
Neill Miner, AdCare Maine
Deborah Doiron, AdCare Maine, Recorder

**Substance Abuse Services Commission
Meeting of June 11, 2014
State Office, DHHS, Conference Room C
41 Anthony Avenue
Augusta, Maine**

JUNE MINUTES

DRAFT Date:	June 27, 2014	SASC Approved:	
Signed: 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; Public Forum

New Business:

- Review of Minutes of Previous Meeting: April Amended Minutes and DRAFT May Minutes
- Health & Human Services Committee Letter to the SASC
- Recovery Sub-Committee: Darren Ripley has a document in place and would like to forward to the Commission members to be discussed as part of the Agenda for June 11th meeting
- Medical Marijuana and ASAM document – how this document can inform the second draft of the Commission’s Marijuana statement
- Follow-up on Marijuana Sub-group work
- SAMHS Update
- Role of MaineCare in the delivery of Substance Abuse Prevention, Intervention, Treatment and Recovery in Maine: Contact MaineCare to identify a person to speak with the Commission

Old Business:

- Membership

Prepare Agenda Items for Next Meeting on July 9, 2014

Adjourn meeting

SASC Meeting - General Opening Statements

Peter McCorison, Chairperson Introductions and Public Guest Comments

Peter McCorison welcomed the members and thanked Ann Dorney for sending him the ASAM link. Peter asked if there were any other additional items for the agenda. Guy Cousins announced that he would be attending SAMHSA supported webinar at 9:30 today regarding on 42CFR, Part 2. SAMHSA has been creating listening forums in order to receive feedback around possible modifications on 42CFR, Part 2 Confidentiality Regulations that govern substance abuse services. There are rigorous conversations going on right now on changes to 42CFR, Part 2. They are the following: 1) repeal of 42CFR, Part 2; 2) leave it alone or 3) amend it, so that information and data can be integrated. Some proponents believe the HIPPA regulations would cover these changes, but the Legal Action Center states that HIPPA does not include the re-disclosure law. People can submit comments for the listening session. Guy will provide a link to the members in case someone would like to make a comment.

Conclusions or Actions:

Peter asked members if the new format for taking minutes was meeting the needs of the group moved to have a motion to accept. Leanne Dodge seconded the motion and the new minute taking format was accepted. The new format will be used going forward.

NEW BUSINESS - June Agenda

Topic #1 – Review of Minutes of Previous Meetings – April Amended and May DRAFT - all members

Discussions: feedback on minutes

Leanne Dodge made a motion to accept the amended April Minutes, it was then seconded and approved. The May Minutes were also motioned for acceptance, with correction of Irene Laney as being present in May by phone. The May Minutes were accepted, seconded and approved.

Conclusions or Actions: Motion for Acceptance and Seconded for April & May

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

List Changes Made:

All changes to April Minutes have been completed (grammar and formatting) and were accepted and approved. The May Minutes will be corrected to read that Irene Laney was present at the May meeting by phone. Peter gave the signed minutes to Deb Doiron for filing.

Some of the Commission members were having problems opening up attachments. Deb Doiron will send all attachments in pdf format in future e-mails to the members.

Topic #6 – SAMHS July 9th Update (order of agenda items shifted to accommodate schedule of Guy Cousins)

Discussions:

- 1) Legislative LD1213, An act to reduce costs and increase access to methadone treatment. This bill was submitted to create better access to services and assist Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC's) become methadone treatment certified. Guy stated that the FQHC's already have the ability to apply, if they are interested. The challenge was there were a number of FQHC's that didn't want to be open seven days a week. Guy discussed the original intent of this legislation; methadone clinic challenges; bundled rate coverage; clinic waivers; items in conflict; and methadone costs.

Tom Leonard asked about the use of methadone by itself, as opposed to using the combination of counseling & methadone; what are the success & resumption use rates; Guy said he would look for the data on this.

Ann shared her perspective on LD1213 to the Commission members. She stated in listening to the testimony for this bill, it was her understanding that the people who brought forth this bill did not want any more methadone clinics or opioid patients moving into the Bangor area. She saw no evidence that the FQHC's were interested in applying to be methadone licensed. However, she did feel that we need to find ways to provide more access seven days a week and have services closer to patients. Her feeling is that it would be beneficial if we could encourage more FQHC's to offer Suboxone treatment.

Peter will set up an action plan and talk this over for a response to the HHS Committee. Guy offered two SAMHS staff members Tracy Weymouth and Katherine Coutu-Farrell to assist with the data collection.

Ann wanted to know if there was the ability to get medication assisted data on the location of clients. Guy stated that he could get this information for her.

- 2) Christine Theriault and the Gambling group; re-allocating money to more media messaging projects.
- 3) NASADAD – Guy attended this meeting last week; he gave a brief overview.
- 4) PMP – finalizing MOU's with other States; sharing data; PMP registration rate is now in the 90%.
- 5) Block Grant money: Looked at our bridging & rental assistance; co-occurring and substance abuse - \$100,000.00; Ann brought up the subject of Veteran's Courts and housing.
- 6) OJJP federal site visit June 19th and 20th.
- 7) OCFS and SAMHS – applying for a grant together.
- 8) Transition on staff; Jane Malinowski is retiring; office associate manager; director of education and training for SAMHS, education specialists I & II.
- 9) Review of contracts.
- 10) New England of Addiction Studies weeklong training in Worcester, MA; Dr. Duval Patrick was scheduling a Governor's Summit, which will happen sometime in July

- 11) ACRA Learning Sessions (Adolescent Community Reinforcement Approach), an evidenced based approach. Dissemination of use is continuing.
- 12) Hope Conference – well attended.
- 13) Contracts signed for a new data vendor – a new data gathering system will replace the TDS; the new vendor will be coming next week for a visit; this system will have the ability to expand, enhance and share data with other states.
- 14) The Consent Decree – June 30th: a meeting planned with Judge Horton; Judge Wathan. SAMHS has been working with providers to increase access to services for Consent Decree clients, and will be presenting this information to Judge Horton. The goal is to have reduced by 20, the number of standards to which SAMHS/DHHS will be held accountable in the future.

**Conclusions or Actions and Responsible Lead Person; timeline if applicable:
Guy Cousins will provide Ann Dorney with medication assisted data regarding locations of clients. No timeline established.**

Topic #2 – Health & Human Services Committee Letter to the SASC

Discussion Items: The members read through the letter from the HHS Committee. Leanne stated that she felt that she would need more information in order to respond to their request. It was felt that the Commission needed to request assistance from Guy Cousins and his staff to support the Commission on this request from the HHS Committee. The Commission would like to have SAMHS staff attend the meetings in July, August and September. Ann Dorney suggested that the Commission write a letter back to HHS Commission and also do some data collection to see if anyone is interested in doing this service. We may have to look at other options for access. Concerns and protocols were discussed regarding methadone and Suboxone treatments.

Neill asked the members for clarification on this project, and whether the role of SAMHS staff would be similar to what they had done previously with the PMP enrollment enhancement effort. With this project, SAMHS helped organize and lead the planning. They gather information on issues, solutions and drafted a comprehensive implementation plan. He suggested the Commission seek clarity from SAMHS is on their role with regard to this new assignment from the Health and Human Services Committee.

HHS Committee Letter topics discussed:

- 1) Creating and sending letters or surveys electronically to FQHC's and hospitals asking for a show of interest in providing Methadone Treatment; are they interested in becoming Suboxone and/or Vivatrol Licensed; and what do they see as the barriers in providing these integrated services. Peter McCorison will work with SAMHS on this communication.
- 2) MAT treatments - Encouraging both medically assisted treatment and other treatment options.
- 3) Proposing elimination of the bundled rate. It was felt that it is not reasonable to expect that services be offer at a rate of \$60.00 a week. Also need to look at what the patients are currently receiving for services.

- 4) HIPPA rules regarding counselors and methadone clinics. There have been problems with sharing information.
- 5) Gathering more data on services and the locations: are we able to put forth a continuum of care, using other treatment modalities?
- 6) Mention of take home medications, as another alternative.
- 7) Oversight around the clinics; what are the regulations around Methadone Treatment clinics. Peter & Darren stated the clinics are CARF accredited.

Rob mentioned that we can obtain a great deal of information from the TDS forms.

The Admission form offers a picture of the client, e.g., their drug of choice; type of treatment they are involved in. The Discharge Form indicates the progress the client has made as a result of treatment. SAMHS can provide this data.

Irene Laney covered some information she learned at a CSAT workshop she attended recently. There was some discussion regarding mobile programs. Tom stated that people are moving closer to the clinics that serve them, because of transportation issues. Ann said that she wondered if there would be someone in the State that can inform us as to the reasons why they don't support mobile van transport. Peter stated that we should still consider the van route, because laws can be amended.

Peter stated that we need to find out what the continuum of care is regarding MAT and how the Commission can support MAT. Ann states that for a certain segment of this population medication assisted treatment is the only option; for other patients there are other treatments and medications. Ann states that Suboxone has been shown to have less withdrawal symptoms for new born babies.

Peter McCorison summarized the next action steps:

- 1) Engage SAMHS and identify appropriate SAMHS staff to assist the Commission and attend the meetings in July, August and September;
- 2) Develop letters to be sent out to the FQHC's and the hospitals; Ann stated that she thought the best option would be to send the letters electronically.
- 3) Develop questions for SAMHS staff, so they can report out to the Commission for the July 9th meeting;
- 4) Gather more information about the oversight of Methadone Assisted Treatment (MAT); Regulations; available the data. Peter identified several topics of interest, including:
 - a) Cost of travel to and from treatment sites, being charged to MaineCare
 - b) Where clients who are on MAT now live
 - c) Methadone clinic readiness to provide access in distant sites, one day a week
 - d) Other types of treatment options available in areas where clients access MAT services
 - e) The current engagement, now, of Federally Qualified Health Centers in relation to substance abuse treatment

Conclusions or Actions and Responsible Lead Person; timeline if applicable: Draft letter making requests, with the support of SAMHS; Peter McCorison and SAMHS; develop letter within the next week.

Topic #3 – Recovery Sub-Committee: Darren Ripley has a document in place and would like to forward to the Commission members to be discussed as part of the agenda for June 11th meeting.

Discussions: Darren distributed the MAAR Substance Use Recovery Survey materials. He gave an overview regarding The Assessment of Recovery Capital: Properties and Psychometrics of a Measure of Addiction Recovery Strengths, which was created by authors Teodora Groshkova, David Best & William White.

Darren stated that he wasn't able to get a provider distribution e-mail listing from the SAMHS list serve to send out to providers. He sent as many requests as he could to providers that he had contact with in the various counties. Ann Dorney said she would help him gather the information for her District of Somerset County. Darren said he would send Ann Dorney and Deb Doiron a link with these electronic materials. Darren stated these surveys could be available right now for use. These tools help gather baseline data, which in turn helps the Recovery Coaches figure out individual clients need. Darren stated that he has offered this tool to many providers, but has not received responses from everyone. Peter stated that we need to strengthen this recovery pillar of service delivery in Maine through the broader use of this tool. Darren states he would love to see more of these surveys filled out. The MAAR Substance Abuse Recovery Survey would be the 1st choice and the most beneficial to gather information on. He would like to see these completed on a monthly basis. Peter recommended including this form as a requirement in Rider E of the provider contract agreement. Rob asked if the data that would be gathered in this way could, in turn, be shared with provider agencies to inform them about how their current and former clients were doing. Darren stated it could be done, but right now he is very busy. Peter stated that we need to figure out a way to do this sometime in the future.

Peter – next steps for the Recovery Sub-Committee:

- 1) Formulate the written request to SAMHS about data to be gathered, with a focus on policy and service delivery;
- 2) Work on enhancing the focus on Recovery, in addition to SAMHS other areas of focus: Prevention, Intervention, Treatment & Recovery;
- 3) Ann suggested having Darren's survey as part of doing a Prior Authorization (PA) request;
- 4) Make a request of SAMHS as to which one of these recovery survey tools would be best to gather information; and then get the providers to use it

Darren & Ann will be working together on the letter of request for SAMHS from the Recovery Sub-Committee. They will have a draft ready for the July 9th meeting.

**Conclusions or Actions and Responsible Lead Person; timeline if applicable:
Create a letter of request for SAMHS assistance in gathering information; Darren Ripley and Ann Giggey; Draft to be presented at the July 9th meeting.**

Topic #4 – Follow-up on Marijuana Sub-group work: Medical Marijuana and ASAM document – forming the next draft of the Commission’s Marijuana statement.

Discussions: Peter stated that the Marijuana Sub-group has completed some additional work on the subject of further decriminalization of marijuana. They are now looking for feedback on their document. Peter stated there is a very time limited opportunity for both sides on showing the impact on our communities.

Peter stated the need to get more information to legislators about marijuana and the impact on communities. There needs to be a fully informed discussion on this matter. We will need to ask SAMHS for assistance in getting more information and be able to distribute this information out to the legislators and in the community.

Scott feels there is a lack of concrete facts on the subject. The information needs to go out to the public soon. Scott suggested that SAMHS could gather information through the Healthy Maine Partnerships.

Peter – changes to the 3rd draft:

- Adding labeling around the food products
- Youth & Family under paragraph #1
- Public safety concerns paragraph #2
- Mental health concerns for adolescents
- Take out the wording prohibition – 1st paragraph
- The word “may” on the research language; using more confident language
- Language must be nonbiased

Rob 2nd – paragraph – it may be too vague regarding resources for SAMHS; finances; and staff time for SAMHS. Rob also said there is still an issue of dispensaries or people growing their own marijuana. New regulations will need to be established.

Peter suggested the Sub-Committee make changes and move the draft out of sub-group to finalize document for SAMHS for July 9th meeting. Tom volunteered to work up some of these questions for July 9th presentation to SAMHS.

Leanne asked again about having this document for the governor candidates for the fall. Peter stated that the Commission needs to develop some questions to engage the candidates, making factual statements regarding the legalization of marijuana and distribute to the primary candidates.

**Conclusions or Actions and Responsible Lead Person; timeline if applicable:
Make changes and move along the final document to SAMHS; Peter McCorison; July 9th timeline**

Topic #7 – Role of MaineCare in the delivery of Substance Abuse Prevention, Intervention, Treatment and Recovery in Maine: Contact MaineCare to identify a person to speak with the Commission.

Peter states that he will need to reach out to SAMHS again for the contact person for MaineCare to work with the Commission.

**Conclusions or Actions and Responsible Lead Person; timeline if applicable:
Contact MaineCare representative; Peter McCorison; No timeline established**

OLD BUSINESS - June Agenda

Topic #8 – Membership

Discussions:

There are currently three positions open:

Elementary school teacher

Lawyer

Recovery seat – Tom to take on the role of the community seat

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

N/A

Prepare Agenda Items for the next meeting on July 9, 2014:

- 1) **Learning more about the letter from the Health & Human Services Committee;**
- 2) **Ask SAMHS for further assistance on the subject of legalization of marijuana**
- 3) **Recovery request from SAMHS**
- 4) **Questions for candidates**
- 5) **CFR 42 – Does the Commission want to make a statement; their role**
- 6) **Non-biased position paper on legalization of Marijuana – things to consider; make paper educational;**

Adjourn Meeting: 12:00