

**State of Connecticut**  
**State Board of Mental Health and Addiction Services**  
**January 20, 2016**  
**Connecticut Valley Hospital**

**Present:** Chairman John Hamilton, Peggy Ayer, Samuel Ball, Kristie Barber, Sharon Castelli, Marcia Dufore, Kathy Flaherty, Ingrid Gillespie, Jennifer Gross, Jennifer Henry, Juan Hernandez, Tina Inferrera, Pat Mosimann, Bob Painter, Manuel Paris, Kevin Sevarino, Judith Shaw, Jim Smith, Tom Steen, Janine Sullivan-Wiley, Margaret Watt

**Excused:** Ismene Petrakis, Craig Allen, Deb Dettor

**DMHAS Staff:** Commissioner Delphin-Rittmon, Deputy Commissioner Nancy Navarretta, Paul DiLeo, Michael Michaud, Mary Kate Mason, Bill Pierce, Lauren Siembab, Marilyn Duran

**Agenda Item 1: Call to order and introductions**

The meeting was called to order at 2:40 PM by Chairman John Hamilton

**Agenda Item 2: Agenda review, Minutes of previous meetings review and action**

The minutes from the November 18, 2015 meeting were reviewed and accepted.

**Agenda Item 3:**

1. ***Budget:*** Paul Dileo gave an update on the budget. The Governor put out rescissions in November and for DMHAS it totaled about \$8.5 million. The majority of cuts were for our grant accounts and they were not passed to DMHAS community service providers. Out of the special session DHMAS received \$1.5 million. Since July 1<sup>st</sup> DMHAS had a reduction of almost \$10 million to our personnel service line and we are currently trying to figure out how to manage this with the help of OPM. The Governor's FY17 off-year adjustment budget will come out in February.
2. ***Alcohol Drug Policy Council (ADPC):*** Commissioner Delphin-Rittmon informed the board that the next ADPC meeting is in March. Subcommittees have been established and will meet prior to the meeting in March. The content areas for the subcommittees are prevention, early intervention, treatment and recovery supports as well as some health maintenance. There are other cross-cutting areas to be addressed such data, policy and evidence-based practices. The board is welcome to attend these meetings.
3. ***DMHAS Strategic Planning Session Input:*** Commissioner Delphin-Rittmon provided the Board with an initial draft of DMHAS Goals and Objectives for 2016-2018 and would like some feedback/comments on it. DMHAS is now working on an implementation process and plan.

**Agenda Item 4:**

- ***Medication Assisted Treatment:*** DMHAS Director of Community Services Division Lauren Siembab did a presentation on opioid use disorders and treatment options.

**Agenda Item 5: General Updates**

- **Region 1:** Margaret Watt said the region has been holding focus groups and talking to consumers regarding recent experience accessing shelters. There was a presentation on mental health and substance use done in New Canaan and there was a great turnout. Coming up soon the region will hold the first mental health first aid training in Spanish. There is new information posted on [www.turningpoint.ct.org](http://www.turningpoint.ct.org)
- **Region 2:** Kristie Barber announced there will be a statewide behavioral health listening forum in Bridgeport on March 30<sup>th</sup>; place to be determined.

- **Region 3:** Jennifer Gross stated the region had their first day of filming for the transportation video project. The results exceeded expectations.
- **Region 4:** Marcia DuFore informed the board that the region held a forum at the Hartford Public Library regarding a SAMHSA grant to look at health equity for African Americans in particular regions of CT. Five of the churches that participated in these community conversations are interested in applying for the grant. The region will also hold a mental health first aid training for public safety officers in February.
- **Region 5:** Janine Sullivan-Wiley said that the region in collaboration with WCMHN was able to provide mental health first aid training to the entire nursing class in Northwestern Community College. The region in collaboration with Smoking Cessation Supports Initiative are looking to work with housing authorities because HUD is requiring housing authorities to go smoke-free.
- **CPN:** Ingrid Gillespie informed that CPN has been doing town forums across CT primarily on opioids. One of the things on CPN's legislative agenda this year is advocating for prescribers who prescribe opioids for those under the age of 18 to consult with their parents first.
- **CCAR:** Phil Valentine declared that CCAR's Annual Board Meeting will be held at the Radisson in Cromwell, CT; on 1/27/16 from 2:30 – 4:30 PM. Dr. Arthur Evans is the guest speaker at the event which will focus on his feeling of the impact recovery community has had in CT and Philadelphia. On May 2<sup>nd</sup> -4<sup>th</sup> CCAR is having a Multiple Pathways of Recovery Conference, with multiple speakers from across the country. The conference will be held at the Mystic Marriott and registration will be open on February 8th.
- **RNP:** John Hamilton announced that RNP met with the police chief of Bridgeport and they are going to pilot a pre-arrest diversion program for opioid addicts that are committing petty crimes; so instead of getting arrested and getting a criminal record they will have the option to go into RNP's detox and treatment program instead.
- **CLRP:** Kathy Flaherty said CLRP's staff will be taking a furlough day each month due to budget restraints. CLRP got an intern from Goodwin College to work on coordinating the National Healthcare Decisions Week event.

**Agenda Item 6: Other Business, items for future agenda and Announcements**

- Kevin Sevarino announced that CT was recognized as the first state in the Veterans Affairs System for grading the homelessness for veterans down to a functional zero.
- Sharon Castelli announced that there will be a Commissioners' Chili Cook-Off to be held at TCC – Training & Conference Center, Hartford, CT on February 29<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are available at [www.chrysaliscenterct.org](http://www.chrysaliscenterct.org)

**Agenda Item 8: Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 PM.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 17, 2016 beginning at 2:30 PM in room 217 of CVH Page Hall.