

MAADAC Minutes 12/4/09

Attendance: Peter Crumb, Linda Mullis, Sue O'Connor, Gary Blanchard, Tom Crowley, Peter Kosciusko, Russell Viveiros, Tim Stanton, Maryanne Frangules

Absent: Michaelene Dalton, Sean Kelly, Linda Mazak, Joe Kelleher

Peter Crumb opened the meeting at 9:05 AM. He introduced the board members and the new board officers. He recognized the new LADC and CADAC clinicians.

Treasurers report:

Linda reported on the finances. The income and expense were included on the program. Linda reported that the increase in expenses accounted for office expenses, particularly the software and training for the website. The website software allows Linda to make changes on the website that we had previously had to pay someone else to do.

Treasurer's report accepted.

Peter introduced guest speaker William Luzier, Executive Director of the Interagency Council on Substance Abuse and Prevention. Mr. Luzier described the role of the Interagency Council. He also said that an update to the Commonwealth's Substance Abuse Strategic Plan will be released in January. He will be meeting with stakeholders to relate the updated services.

Peter introduced guest speaker State Representative James O'Day. Representative O'Day talked the 6.25% tax on alcohol that was passed this year and the need to continue to work to keep the tax in place. He reported that the bill for licensure reimbursement is currently in the financial service committee. He reported that the gaming bill is coming up before the legislature again this year and seems to have more support. He supports the bill because it provides needed revenue to the state but feel the bill must include language to provide for gambling and substance abuse addictions that are inherent with legal gaming. He asked the membership to continue to educate their legislators on substance abuse problems.

Peter introduced Maryanne Frangules, Executive Director of MOAR. Maryanne spoke about the Act to Improve Access to Alcohol and other Drug Services. She asked the membership to contact their legislators and ask for their support. She also asked the membership to become involved and told all members to consider themselves invited to all meetings that advocate for our profession.

Government Relations:

Tim Stanton reported on the work he has been doing on educating legislators about changes that are needed in insurance reimbursements to widen the scope of choices

members have regarding substance abuse provider access. He also asked the membership to speak up that their voice makes a difference.

Awards Presentation

Maryanne Frangules presented the special recognition award to Jen Parks of the Bureau of Substance Abuse for her work on workforce development.

Peter presented the Outstanding Service Award to Hamden County Sheriff Michael Ashe for his work in making the Hamden County Correctional Center the largest provider of substance abuse treatment in Hamden County. James Kelleher, Director of the Western Mass. Substance Abuse Correctional Center accepted the award on the Sheriff's behalf.

Peter presented the Robert Logue Memorial President's Award to Woody Giessmann for his many years of service in substance abuse and his work at Right Turn.

Peter presented the Counselor of the Year Award to Maureen Buckley. Maureen has been a leading figure in the field of substance abuse in the Berkshires for over 20 years.

The annual raffle was held.

Next meeting: January 28, 2010 at Adcare Worcester

Meeting adjourned 10:20AM

Respectfully submitted, Susan O'Connor