

**Massachusetts Association for Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors (MAADAC)
State Meeting (Virtual)**

Thursday, September 28, 2023

Present: Joe Kelleher (President), Linda Mullis (Treasurer), John Finneran (Secretary), Linda Mazak, Sue O' Connor, Tom Peltz, James Plaza, Nancy Reis, Devin Stevenson, Ronda Tobey, Christine Kelly.

Agenda & Minutes

1. The meeting was promptly called to order, a motion was made to accept last month's minutes and voted upon unanimously.
2. Regional Meetings: Letters from each MAADAC region will be prepared and forwarded to Linda who will then forward them to each of the regional memberships with the date, time, and zoom link for that meeting. The purpose of each regional meeting is to elect new officers for the new two-year term which begins in 2024. The regional meetings must be held prior to the next MAADAC meeting on 11/9/2023.
3. Cape Cod Symposium:
 - a. Members who attended the Symposium noted several differences in the overall delivery and experience of this conference since its being taken over by a national company. Some members noted a more rushed and less personal atmosphere to the proceedings, though presentations were of high quality. Some members noted fewer opportunities for networking with other attendees. The quality of hotel accommodation was noted to have declined. Appeared to be more run down. Despite the growing significance of the problem, there were few presentations addressing substance misuse issues among criminal justice populations. Many organizations providing services within the public sector reported growing financial difficulties.
 - b. The issue was raised regarding the MAADAC booth at the Symposium and its cost-effectiveness for generating membership. Membership who staffed the booth in the Exhibition area noted the low volume and interest in MAADAC. The MAADAC booth competes with many private health care organizations that are better resourced. Purchasing a booth for future Cape Cod Symposiums will be taken up in the new year.
4. CADC and LADC:

- a. Some members questioned if MAADAC Membership numbers may suffer due to the affordability of membership through NAADAC and possible discrepancies salaries of substance misuse clinicians who work within public or private sector organizations.
 - b. It was noted that there are different requirements and paths to certification/licensure depending on the path with which one pursues them. The sequence of first obtaining CADC certification confers LADC licensure. However, obtaining a LADC license does not confer CADC Certification. This has implications for certification between CADC and LADC. Obtaining CADC Certification may be more difficult if LADC is sought first despite its interest by public sector substance misuse counselors.
5. Membership Survey: A membership survey was suggested to ascertain membership questions or concerns in relation to the mission of MAADAC. As a preliminary step, Jim Plaza offered to take questions or concerns from E-Board members. He asked that no more than 5 questions be send to him at jmplaza@veriaon.net
6. Annual Meeting:
- a. The meeting is scheduled for either 1/19 or 1/26/2024.
 - b. Follow up note: Don Johnson who was awarded MAADAC Counselor of the Year also was awarded Counselor of the Year by NAADAC and will be recognized at this year's NAADAC awards ceremony in Denver Colorado.
7. The New England Institute of Addiction Studies (NEIAS) Summer School that is held at Worcester State University in June will provide an exhibition table at no cost for MAADAC; we plan student membership packets and NAADAC literature available.
8. Treasurer's Report: Linda summarized financial activities to date:
- a. The two CDs with Bank of America (BOA) have an interest rate of 4.5% for 13 months.
 - b. Reported a profit of \$4000 from the Golf Tournament.

Next meeting to be held virtually for Thursday, 11/9/2023 @ 10:30AM.

Prepared 9/282023 J. Finneran, Secretary