

Vermont Drug and Alcohol Coalition

Mission Statement: *The Vermont Drug and Alcohol Coalition exists to continually improve access to quality prevention, intervention, treatment, enforcement and recovery services and programs for all Vermonters.*

October 28, 2009 Minutes

Present: David O'Brien, Dick Powell, Christine Peterson, Patty McCarthy, Pat Martin, Debby Haskins, Ken Libertoff, Joy Mitchell, Kim Martin, Mary Fletcher, Emma Rowe, Mark Ames, and Andy Hauty

By phone –none

Ken gave an update on future funding at state level for services and agencies. There are storm clouds gathering, the governor is not running again and there is a large deficit in the state budgets...approximately 100 million. At a discussion, the question was asked "what would you do if there was an 8% cut in the general funds?" In reality this could mean a 20% cut in departments. Commissioners were charged to report on what they would cut.

Ken feels his role is to help figure out how to get candidates for governor to talk to this group. He is sitting down with the governor next Thursday, if folks want to send him anything to discuss or bring to the meeting. He will recommend no more than a 4% cut to Mental Health and Substance Abuse departments. He will also mention this group. Ken passed out flyer announcing Vermont Association of Mental Health's annual conference on November 12th.

David mentioned that at the meeting earlier Peter Lee from ADAP also talked about an 8% cut passed on to programs. Deb is concerned that the SAP funding will be eliminated.

Old Business:

- a) **Minutes**-There were no minutes from September because there were only 3 people present. Patty did not take minutes but the group discussed communication and how to get more people to the table and how to better get the word out about VDAC.
- b) **Treasurer's Report**-Mark did not get report from Buffy. Patty reported that there is approximately \$2,700.
- c) **Administrative Support**-Patty informed group that Kim Martin from Central Vermont New Directions will be taking the meeting minutes and managing the email list, updating website information, and membership list.

New Business:

- a) Elections:
 - i. President
 - ii. Secretary

Mark's position as treasurer is for another year. Both Carol Rose and Pat Martin's terms continue as co-chairs. The co-chairs are responsible when president is absent. Group reviewed the by-laws and Patty nominated Kim Martin as Secretary, David seconded, all were in favor. Emma nominated Christine Peterson as President, Mark seconded. All were in favor.

- b) 2010 Meeting Schedule-Group decided to stay on same schedule as 08-09. Ten meetings a year, 4th Wednesday of the month.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 2, 2009 at Department of Liquor Control

Dec. 2nd at 4:00 is the Red Ribbon Tree Ceremony at the State House.

Adjourned: 1:20

Respectfully submitted: Kim Martin