

3/31/11

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.*
March 23, 2011 Minutes

Present: David O'Brien, Christine Peterson, Kim Martin, Patty McCarthy, Mark Ames.
By Phone: Jen Letourneau, Glen Gross and Christine Lloyd Newbury

Note--- new call in phone number----(800) 747-5150 code 2296103

Action Steps:

- Summary sheets on Recovery, Treatment and SAPs should be sent to Christine by April 9th
- Patty will look for VDAC banner
- Patty will make more copies of "Did You Know?"
- Kim will pick up posters from Patty
- Christine will deliver half page invitation to legislators
- Patty will ask Joan Lenos to announce our presence on the house floor on Tuesday morning.
- Kim will call state house and reserve easels for fact posters
- Patty and Kim will bring materials for table
- Kim will look into cake from Price Chopper and call cafeteria and ask about a table for the morning
- Kim will check where next meeting is scheduled
- Christine will ask JoEllen and Center for Health and learning about their advocacy training

Review and approve minutes from February, 2011 meeting: February minutes were reviewed. David moves to approve minutes as written, Kim seconds. All in favor.

Treasurer's report: Kim reported that there is \$1,344 in budget.

Membership report: No new members.

Legislative Update: Floyd was unable to join us today. Christine reported that the House voted to restore 25% of SAP funding and 50% of the cuts to Mental Health. Tobacco tax may be .27. New Hampshire may be reducing their tax by 10 cents.

Legislative Day –April 19th:

PITER, Prevention, Intervention, Treatment, Enforcement and Recovery will be represented in the card room from 7:30am on. Patty will take a shift from 10-12 while others in room 11; Dennis Menard will take a shift. Christine is organizing this. Patty suggested putting together a half page that asks lawmakers ahead of time to stop by and visit us on April 19th and learn about PETER. Have legislative pages hand deliver folded paper to committee people and insert the rest in mailboxes on Monday, April 18 or early Tuesday, April 19th. Prevention Works also has room 11 from 9-12. Christine is working on this. Patty suggested having placemats or table tents in cafeteria. Kim and Patty will work on putting together materials that represent all sectors of PITER to bring on April 19th which will include maps of the recovery centers and prevention coalitions in Vermont, list of bills introduced in session relating to alcohol and other drugs. Each sector can bring their own brochures and information but not table displays. Patty shared with group what made Recovery Day so successful. She felt that having candy on the table or apples to give away helps and having youth be present to

cut the cake and serve to legislators during lunch. We could use SAMHSA's new phrase, "Prevention Works, Treatment is Effective and People Recover!" on half page invitation.

VDAC Future: David shared with group why we are having this conversation. Patty observed how it used to be and if we had resources it could be stronger. There is no full time person to do the work. We all have other jobs and are busy. Mark talked about how and why VDAC began. Patty suggested getting input from our 19 members. Patty also talked about how VAMH is revamping their messages and having advocacy group for both mental health and addiction with contract to include prevention and treatment. We are in difficult times and like before we will be vying for the same funds. VDAC brought the field together years ago. Can we meet on a quarterly or two times a year schedule? Glen felt that we should continue VDAC to have a place to share and collaborate among the five sectors. Mark would like to engage Barbara Cimaglio and then report back next meeting. Other ideas were mentioned like having VDAC put on Substance Abuse conferences, or advocacy trainings, or work with ADAP on RROSC. Group decided to ask the 19 members, "What do we do next?" Agreed to meet in April right after Awareness Day and discuss this further with more member input.

Next meeting: April 27th, 12:30 - 2:30pm at the Pavilion 4th floor conference room, Montpelier (bring ID).

April 19th -Awareness Day at the State House

April 27

May 26

June 23

Adjourned 2:20

Respectfully submitted: Kim Martin