

**WNY Chemical Dependency Consortium  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Friday, May 17, 2024  
Virtual Meeting**

**Time start: 11:04**

**End time: 11:51**

**Members Present:**

Matt Smith	X	Bill Penman	X	Jodie Altman	X	Gulsum Silluzio	
Beth Anzalone		Jackie West	X	Jennifer Seib	x	Melanie Witkowski	x
Ed Cichon	x	Shannon Ford	X	Erin Zych	x		
Robin Mann		Erica Sebastian	X	Sheila Harding	x		

**Call to Order:** Board Chair Matt Smith called the meeting to order at 11:04 a.m.

**Approval of Minutes:**

1<sup>st</sup>: Erica Sebastian

2<sup>nd</sup>: Jodie Altman

Minutes of the April 2024 meeting were approved

**Board Membership:** The updated dues/membership letter is complete and sent out. If all committee chairs can send to their members.

**Treasurer's report:** Bill Penman reported no change, we have \$10,152.54. Bill reported he will be retiring in October, and a new Treasurer will need to take over. Jackie West offered to help once Bill retires.

**Trainings Update:** August 22<sup>nd</sup> training to provide a Day in the Life and an Overview of Prevention, Treatment, Recovery and Harm Reduction. 10 minutes total for each presenter.

1. Prevention – WNY United Against Drug and Alcohol Abuse and Prevention Works
2. Treatment – Horizon Health
3. Recovery – BestSelf
4. Harm Reduction - Evergreen Health

The groups are encouraged to start working on their segments. A convening meeting will be scheduled soon. Matt will host the zoom meeting for the training and provide a few opening and closing remarks.

**WNYCDC Website.** Things remain the same, no new information. Kate Chudoba (WNY United) will continue to add any new campaign information. Please, remember to send any information to [Kchudoba@wnyunited.org](mailto:Kchudoba@wnyunited.org) at WNY United

**Gold Key Holiday Luncheon** – date scheduled for November 15<sup>th</sup> at Classics V. Matt will reach out to facilities to confirm the date.

1. Gold Key Awards to now be given in the following categories: Prevention, Treatment, Recovery, Harm Reduction, and Lifetime Achievement Awards. Peers and coalitions/community groups can still be recognized inside those categories.

2. Put the Goldkey nomination form into a google form. Melanie will submit a draft to board members.

**Other Updates:** Shannon shared that the new UconnectCare (formerly GCASA) Women and Children's facility will be opening in August, Ed Cichon shared that they received a grant for HUD housing, the Hope and Healing Conference is scheduled June 6<sup>th</sup> in Celeron, NY at the Chautauqua Harbor Hotel. Matt shared that InUnity Alliance is in the process of creating a one-pager on the benefits of being a coalition member like WNYCDC is and a regular agency member. He'll share as soon as it is available. Each agency will need to decide if they want to join or if what they'll get as members of WNYCDC will be enough for them. InUnity Alliance/ASAP's John Coppola is retiring. Matt will represent WNYCDC at the party in his honor right after the InUnity Alliance Board meeting in early June.

**Committee reports:**

**Treatment: Jodie Altman**

- 1) OASAS-1115 waiver and its impact on residential
- 2) Discussion on the federal changes SAMSHA
- 3) OTP update

**Public Policy: Ed Cichon**

1. Federal updates on change of Healthcare
2. State & COLA update
3. Marijuana classification
4. Opioid Settlement Funds

**Prevention: Sheila Harding**

1. SOR Updates – Take It To The Box and Take Back Day
2. Data Collection
3. Presentation from Dan Webb from Catalyst Research

**Meeting ended at 11:51**

**Board Terms:**

Matt Smith 10/26	Bill Penman 10/24	Erica Sebastian 2/26	Sheila Harding 10/26
Beth Anzalone 10/26	Jackie West 10/24	Erin Zych 2/26	Shannon Ford 10/25
Jodie Altman 10/26	Ed Cichon 10/26	Robin Mann 10/26	Jennifer Seib 10/26
Melanie Witkowski 1/27	Gulsum Silluzio 9/26		