

New Hampshire Council on Problem Gambling
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
June 20, 2018

Present: Ed Talbot, Debi LaPlante, Maura McCann, Heather Gray, Ginger Ross

The meeting was called to order at 12:10 PM.

President Dot Duda opened the meeting with a motion to approve the minutes from the April 12, 2018 meeting. Maura McCann seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the minutes were accepted as presented.

Ed Talbot presented the Treasurer's Report. The council received \$4,890 from the NH Charitable Foundation grant and after all expenses, the balance on hand is \$14,171.71.

Ed Talbot further presented the Director's Report.

Dot Duda and Ed Talbot attended the Consortium Meeting where a regional group (the New England States along with New York) would have a unified council for problem gaming with one person to oversee all of it. There was further discussion about getting Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont together as a Northern New England group to discuss further how we could, as a combined effort, support our cause. The next Consortium meeting will be held in Rhode Island in September with the spring meeting held in Maine. Meetings are held quarterly.

At that meeting, Phil Koppel spoke about a request to get demographic data from a person when they call for assistance. These were direct questions to ask the person. The group discussed that there were techniques to gather that information without interfering with helping the person and not compromising the help/assistance that the person is asking for during the call. Data shows that such calls, 60% come from a loved one while 40% come from the person themselves.

Ed Talbot and Ginger Ross were at the Brentwood Recovery Coach Academy meeting. Both were pleased with how the meeting went, the questions received and participation. Ed Talbot also had a follow up meeting with Amy Pepin from Community Health Initiative. He also reported on additional discussion he had with Annette Escalante, Director of the Department of the Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Services (DDHS). Ms. Escalante mentioned an RFI (Request for Information) that would be sent out from her office specific to problem gambling. New Futures Office will be moving (January 2019) and they have asked that the NH Council on Problem Gambling move with them and this is under consideration. Ed also had a meeting with NH211 and including Problem Gambling in their array of direction of services that they provide to those who call for assistance. Currently Ed gets anywhere from 12 to 15 calls a month and NH211 suggested a \$4,000 annual fee to be paid to field any calls they receive on this topic.

Ed Talbot and Maura McCann reported on Keno and Charitable Gaming. Maura McCann reported that through April 2018, \$44,000 has been sent to the Department of Health and Human Services. Those dollars are part of the Keno legislation (now law) that says 1% of the net profit is earmarked for problem gambling through that office. Further discussion was held regarding the Charitable Gaming Casinos throughout the state and having our brochure provided at those locations. Maura McCann will follow up with Stephen Johnston in the office with a request for the State of New Hampshire investigators to drop off those brochures when they visit the locations during their normal business hours.

The Division of Charitable Gaming and Racing with the New Hampshire Lottery will be reporting on self-exclusion at the charitable casinos throughout the state. Maura McCann reported that once iLottery launches in September that self-exclusion is available as well as monetary limits for spending on iLottery. Self-exclusion at a casino is a contract signed by a person which bans them from entering the premises. If they are found on the premises, they are escorted off. Further, if they gamble they may have to forfeit dollars won and/or face further consequences.

The council discussed the upcoming 2018 NH Behavioral Health Summit, on December 10 & 11, 2018 at the Manchester Downtown Hotel, in Manchester and submitting a proposal to make a presentation at that event. There was interest in making this more appealing for those attending to get some type of accreditation (continuing education credits, certification, NH Council Certification, etc.) Ed Talbot will follow up with this regarding proposal submission.

Lastly, the group touched upon the strategic plan for the council, the white paper for accomplishing some type of accreditation as well as deliverables per the charitable grant.

A motion was made by Ed Talbot to adjourn the meeting at 2:00 PM. The motion was seconded by Maura McCann and voted by the group affirmatively.

The next meeting of the Board will be September 19, 2018 at the Lottery Headquarters in Concord NH.

Respectfully submitted,

Maura McCann
Vice President
New Hampshire Council on Problem Gambling