

New Hampshire Council on Problem Gambling
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
December 14, 2016

Present: Dot Duda, Ed Talbot, Debi LaPlante, Maura McCann, Courtney Gray

The meeting was called to order at 12:15 PM.

Dot Duda began the meeting with the President's Report. A motion was made to accept the minutes from the September 12, 2016 meeting. Motion was made by Debi LaPlante and seconded by Maura McCann. Motion was passed.

Keith Whyte from the National Council on Problem Gambling reached out to Dot Duda about having the NH Council on Problem Gambling become a member of the national organization. The offer was to become a member for free during the first year and there would be a charge of \$100 for the subsequent year, etc.

Maura McCann mentioned that the New Hampshire Lottery is a Silver Non-Profit member and this was an elevated membership that could possibly include the NH Council Membership as part of that overall membership. Maura will reach out to them in regards to the membership, etc.

Dot reported that 253 calls from New Hampshire were made to the National Call Center in Louisiana for assistance with problem gambling. Both Ed Talbot and Maura McCann will work with them in providing the New Hampshire contact numbers as well as having the national website recognize the New Hampshire Council's website, when clicking on where to go for assistance in New Hampshire.

Courtney Gray from New Hampshire Providers spoke about assisting this group with a list of their members. Those members could be contacted in the hopes of attending a future seminar regarding problem gambling here in New Hampshire, held at Lottery Headquarters. The focus would be on treatment, recovery as well as prevention. Courtney said that the membership meets quarterly and that she would welcome Ed Talbot to attend one of those meetings and speak at their 2nd quarterly meeting in 2017.

Ed Talbot reviewed the treasurer's report with the group.

He spoke very highly of the NH Behavioral Health Conference he attended at the Grand Summit Resort and Conference Center in Bartlett, New Hampshire this fall. The next meeting he will attend is the New England Consortium in Sturbridge, MA on January 18, 2017.

Ed reported that he met in September with New Hampshire Lottery sales staff, briefing them on the Council here in New Hampshire and the support received by the combined effort of the Lottery and the Council. Ed also reported on a lengthy meeting he had with the Governor's Advisor on Addiction, James Vara. Ed plans on being at the next meeting of the Governor's Commission on Alcohol & Drugs on December 16, 2016.

Debi LaPlante discussed Problem Gambling Awareness Month. This would be March of 2017 with the 2nd Tuesday of that month earmarked for Gambling Disorder Screening Day. Here in New Hampshire, an attempt would be made to recruit service providers to complete Biosocial Gambling Screening on that day. The three questions asked would be:

- During the past 12 months, have you become restless irritable or anxious when trying to stop/cut down on gambling?
- During the past 12 months, have you tried to keep your family or friends from knowing how much you gambled?
- 3. During the past 12 months, did you have such financial trouble as a result of your gambling that you had to get help with living expenses from family, friends, or welfare?

Debi also provided the group with an overview of Game Sense and the group's physical presence at the garage entrance at the Plainridge Park Casino in Massachusetts. She also provided information on research her employer (Harvard Medical School) was doing regarding Game Sense and their outreach.

Further discussion was held regarding the council hosting a training seminar and the need for an incentive to get people to sign up for it, something to drive the providers to the certification (perhaps CEUs) as well as recognition of the certification.

Maura McCann reported that the New Hampshire Lottery was participating with McGill University and their request to promote the fact that lottery tickets are not good gifts for minors during the holidays. Below is a sample of what will be included in our newsletters, social media as well as on the monitors at the stores that sell our tickets.



To add to our website, please send articles and the like directly to Maura McCann for inclusion.

Under new business, the council reviewed Game Sense and having New Hampshire residents be able to self-exclude remotely without having to go into Massachusetts to sign up.

Dot Duda made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Debi LaPlante and approved unanimously.

The next meeting of the Board will be March 15, 2017 at the Lottery Headquarters in Concord NH.

Respectfully submitted,

Maura McCann
Vice President