

New Hampshire Council on Problem Gambling
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
February 1, 2018

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

The meeting was called to order at 12:07 PM.

With President Dot Duda unable to make today's meeting, Ed Talbot presented the minutes of the September 27, 2017 meeting. A motion was made by Debi LaPlante to accept the minutes as presented and seconded by Ginger Ross. Minutes were accepted unanimously.

Ed Talbot presented the Treasurer's Report:

The opening balance as of 9/20/17 was \$7,794.78. With funding of \$25,000 from the New Hampshire Lottery minus December expenses, the balance as of 12/20/17 was \$25,696.67. As of January 1, 2018, the balance was \$23,741.30.

Ed Talbot presented the President's Report:

He attended the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation's Grant Seeker's Information Workshop in the Mount Washington Valley. There are changes in process for applying for grants in 2018. At the Keene City Council Meeting, Ed testified at their meeting specific to Keno and problem gambling. Ed visited the West Ossipee Recovery Center and spoke with Eric regarding the Gamblers Anonymous Meeting. There will be a new Recovery Center opening in North Conway soon.

Ed has requested meetings with Annette Escalante, Director of the Bureau of Behavioral Health, Drug and Alcohol Division as well as Marty Boldin who is the Governor's Advisor of Behavioral Health. Ginger Ross and Ed had an initial meeting with Annette and a follow up meeting which included Debi LaPlante and others from Annette's staff. On Tuesday, February 6, Ed will be meeting with Marty Boldin and in a separate meeting, Amy Pepin, Senior Consultant for the Community Health Institute and JSJ Research to discuss planning and funding for problem gambling.

Kathy Scanlan provided Ed with the APGSA National Survey on state's responses to problem gambling. The survey shows that New Hampshire is lacking in resources, etc.

Ed made a presentation at the Concord Recovery as well as another presentation at a Recovery Center in Malden, MA.

Ed recently met with a seacoast family dealing with a gambling problem with a family member. This person was directed to GA meetings in York, ME as well as Andover, MA. This is an indication of the lack of available meetings here in New Hampshire.

Ed attended the December Meeting of the Governor's Commission on Alcohol & Drugs.

General discussion was held in regards to inviting others to become part of this council and to meet quarterly. Those attending will be reaching out to extend invitations.

The group then had a discussion about a white paper. This could be a report on where New Hampshire is in regards to problem gambling, what resources there current are, detailing current funding and if funding were to be received, what that funding could be used for – the paper would reflect specifics.

At the Tuesday Meeting with Amy Pepin, Ed Talbot may propose a white paper and see how well it is received.

Could the Council hire someone familiar with the field, who resides here in New Hampshire to write such a piece?

The option of a developing a strategic plan, which is a much more in-depth report which will take a much longer period of time to write and finalize.

The New Hampshire Charitable Foundation Express Grant requests must be in by March 31, 2018. One idea for the express grant would be as a result of the new lottery game, Keno and the need to get support pieces in where gambling takes place – bars, taverns, charitable casinos as well as lottery retailers. We could ask for \$X for design, printing, distribution of the pieces.

Earlier in the meeting, the group discussed a two-side brochure for 211NH. It would be nice to see “Problem Gambling” listed on the brochure.

Maura McCann also gave an update on Keno here in New Hampshire. In the fall, seven of the 12 cities said yes to allow Keno to be on sale. Keno went on sale December 15, 2017. In six weeks, sales have topped \$1 million. There are 55 “pouring establishments” selling Keno statewide. The large influx will be following town meetings and the towns which have the sale of Keno on the warrant for residents to vote on and the majority of those meetings are in March. To date, more than 50 towns have the sale of Keno on their town warrants.

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 June 20, 2018 at the Lottery Headquarters in Concord NH.

Respectfully submitted,

Maura McCann
Vice President
New Hampshire Council on Problem Gambling