

New Hampshire Council on Problem Gambling  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
December 19, 2018

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

The meeting was called to order by President Duda at 12:05 PM.

The minutes of the September 19, 2018 meeting were presented. A motion was made by Debi LaPlante to accept the minutes as presented and seconded by Ed Talbot. Minutes were accepted unanimously.

President's Report: Dot Duda and Ed Talbot notified the council that they were contacted by Marlene Warner, Director of the Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling and her inquiry if the New Hampshire Council on Problem Gambling would be an affiliate member of the National Council on Problem Gambling (NCPG). Following discussion, the decision was made to let her know that the Council was not financially able to commit to be an affiliate member at this time.

President Duda further reported that she will be attending the New England Consortium Meeting in Sturbridge, Massachusetts on January 25, 2019.

Treasurer's Report: Ed Talbot presented as Peter Duda was not able to attend today's meeting. The budget balance as of September 19, 2018 was \$6,504.19. The Council received \$25,000 in funding from the New Hampshire Lottery which then brought the balance to \$31,504.19. After expenses, the balance as of December 19, 2018 is \$22,912.14.

Executive Director's Report: Ed Talbot reported on the following – September 27, the Department of Health and Human Services released an RFI (Request for Information) titled *Research, Prevention and Treatment of Problem Gamblers*. On October 18, Debi LaPlante, Heather Gray and Ed Talbot met with Amy Pepin of the Community Health Institute specific to responding to the RFI. The New Hampshire Council on Problem Gambling submitted a response to their RFI. To date, we have not heard anything further. Ed Talbot was part of a play responsibly news story produced by WMUR in October regarding the large Mega Millions jackpot run. On Saturday, December 1, Ed Talbot presented to graduate students at New England College here in Concord as those students were preparing for the Licensed Mental Health Councilor exam.

Office Relocation: The move of the Council office from 10 Ferry Street, Concord to 1 Eagle Square, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor in Concord was to be completed prior to the holidays. All printed materials as well as the Council's website have been updated with the new address.

Additional Funding: Ed Talbot reported on a proposal by Jim Rafferty from The River Casino and Sports Bar (Nashua) to have the charitable casinos (up to 10 of them) designate an evening where the NH Council on Problem Gambling would receive the net profit. More information on this will be forthcoming. The NH Charitable Foundation has two grants available for consideration Express Grant and an Organizational Grant that we may look into in the coming year. The Council was awarded the Express Grant in the amount of \$4,890 in FY 18.

Ed Talbot discussed his interest in bringing an assistant onboard per a contractual basis by the name of Karen Sicher. This would be to assist with administrative work. Ed will prepare a job description for the position and forward to the board via email for approval.

The Council discussed the upcoming Gambling Disorder Screening Day in March, 2019. Debi LaPlante reported on working with the Department of Corrections in Massachusetts for screening of inmates and reaching out to the New Hampshire Department of Corrections to do likewise here in New Hampshire. The screening day materials will be circulated amongst the Council members for review.

New Hampshire Representative Dick Ames and Aly McKnight from New Futures will be invited to become members of the Council. The council is always looking for new people to bring onboard to round out the group.

Meeting dates for the coming calendar year were set for the following Wednesdays:

March 13, 2019

June 19, 2019

September 18, 2019

December 18, 2019

A motion was made by Ed Talbot to adjourn the meeting at 1:30 PM. The motion was seconded by Maura McCann and voted by the group affirmatively.

The next meeting of the Board will be March 13, 2019 at the Lottery Headquarters in Concord NH.

Respectfully submitted,

Maura McCann

Vice President

New Hampshire Council on Problem Gambling