



MEDINA COUNTY DRUG ABUSE COMMISSION (MCDAC) Minutes of September 12, 2016

◆ ATTENDANCE

- Present
 - Louis DeLoss - Township Alt. Rep.
 - Susan Kinney Dillon – Brunswick Alt. Rep.
 - Will Koran - School District Rep.
 - Pat Nahrstedt - Wadsworth Rep.
 - Kent Patterson - Police Chiefs Assoc. Rep.
 - Wally Schaedel - Villages Rep.
 - Robert Starcher – Medina City Rep.
 - Mary Schultz – Commissioners Alt. Rep.
 - Jeff Vogel - Commissioners Rep.
- Absent
 - James Bigam - Commissioners Rep. (excused)
 - Evelyn Czyz - Township Rep. (excused)
 - Cliff Nowak - Brunswick Rep. (excused)
- Others Present
 - Adam Friedrick – Commissioners’ Liaison
 - Brian Nowak - MCDAC Executive Director
 - Linda Robertson – Cathy’s House
 - Mark Skoda – Cathy’s House

◆ CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was held in the lower conference room of the Professional Services Building located at 124 West Washington Street, Medina. Chairman Will Koran called the regular meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. After roll, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

◆ CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of May 2, 2016, were emailed in advance. Wally Schaedel moved to accept the minutes as submitted; the motion was seconded by Lou DeLoss. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously. The minutes will be placed on file as submitted.

◆ PRESENTATION

Brian Nowak introduced Mark Skoda and Linda Robertson of Cathy’s House and thanked them for the work they do there.

Mr. Skoda stated that he took over as Director of Cathy’s House January 1, 2016. Wally Schaedel explained that Cathy’s House is a 3/4 house, which means it is a supervised sober living environment with no medical treatment or counseling; it does not qualify for federal funds. It is a sober residence for men and women 18 years and older who are making the transition from drug and/or alcohol addiction to recovery; it houses 10 men and 6 women. The residents are required to obtain employment within a short period of time; many have felony records or pending legal matters. They do not tend to have difficulty obtaining employment. Mr. Skoda noted that Sandridge, as well as other local businesses, have helped with employing residents of Cathy’s House.

Mr. Skoda also attends meetings and has done so for 30 years. Currently, the men’s side of the house are typically men dealing with heroin addiction; it used to be mainly men dealing with alcoholism. He believes it to be the same on the women’s side. Emily Sanderson is the new director on the women’s side.

Linda Robertson reported that as well as the MCDAC grant, funding also comes from residents’ rent, private donations/contributions, the ADAMH Board (for the women’s side), etc. She stated that the residents having the best success typically stay six months or longer. The women’s side currently has two openings.

A spaghetti dinner will be held on October 18.

There was a brief discussion regarding Suboxone and Vivitrol use. Currently, Suboxone is not permitted at Cathy’s House, although there has been some discussion on the matter. Linda Robertson explained that Narcan training is available to the public at the Medina County Health Department. The training takes approximately 45 minutes.

On behalf of the board, Will Koran thanked them for what they do – they are saving lives.

Wally Schaedel noted that the police chief from East Liverpool was lamenting the fact that their community has nothing to offer addicts. He stated that the benefits Medina County has to offer its citizens is wonderful. Jeff Vogel added that the State of Ohio is talking about adopting statewide drug prevention curriculum; Medina County has been doing this for many years.

◆ **NEW BUSINESS**

MCDAC Member Renewals

Rhonda Beck reported that several member term renewals are coming up at the end of the year. She asked that the following members have their appointing agency send notice of their reappointments:

Cliff Nowak	City of Brunswick
Wally Schaedel	Villages
Lou DeLoss	Townships
Pat Nahrstedt	City of Wadsworth
Kent Patterson	Police Chiefs Association
Jim Bigam	Commissioners (no notice of reappointment needed)
Jeff Vogel	Commissioners (no notice of reappointment needed)

Review of Anti-Drug Levy Balances, Receipts and Expenditures

Brian Nowak distributed a Five Year Funding Analysis for MCDAC (made part of the permanent record) and gave a presentation on past Anti-Drug Levy Funding. In May 2006, the Anti-Drug Levy was passed by voters as a Replacement and Reduction. The levy was reduced from .40 millage to .35 millage. During the five year levy collection, FY 2006 to FY 2012 collections increased, which resulted in a beginning balance in FY 2012 of \$1,237,898. In November 2010, the levy passed as a Renewal. During the five year levy collection, FY 2012 to FY 2016 collections decreased resulting in a beginning balance in FY 2016 of \$879,063. In November 2015, the Anti-Drug Levy passed as a Renewal. Mr. Nowak stated that the Board needs to carefully watch the current levy collections. If the collections continue at the FY 2012 to FY 2016 rate, the Board may need to consider reducing grant funding over the next five years.

◆ **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

Brian Nowak reported that it was nice to have the double booth at the Medina County Fair; it was the first time there was 100% coverage. He thanked everyone for helping out.

Mr. Nowak noted that The LCADA Way opened their treatment facility in Wadsworth in July; they held an open house on August 24.

International Overdose Day was celebrated on August 31 on Medina Square and also at Wadsworth Memorial Park. There were quite a few speakers and some were very moving, particularly from those who have lost loved ones to overdose and those who are in addiction recovery.

Kite Fest was held Saturday and was a great event. The weather was good and those who attending had a nice time. He will be discussing it at the next commissioners’ meeting.

Mr. Nowak announced that a traveling exhibit called “Hidden in Plain Sight” will be held by the Copley Township Police will take place at the Medina Performing Arts Center tomorrow at 6:00 p.m. He explained that the stage is set up as a bedroom with 200 items in the room, half of which contain some type of drug paraphernalia that is hidden. Parents get to view the stage area and then a presentation by one of the police officers follows.

◆ **GO AROUND**

Susan Kinney Dillon stated that she attended the rally and was pleased to see how many vendors attended this year.

Bob Starcher reported that the county coroner offices are getting so busy with the deaths that they are risking losing their certification because they are unable to keep up with the standards due to lack of help.

Adam Friedrich briefly discussed the possibility of a sales tax increase in the future; Medina County currently has one of the lowest sales tax rates in the state.

Kent Patterson gave the Board an update on Evelyn’s health. Everyone expressed concern and well wishes for her.

Pat Nahrstedt noted that Wadsworth was happy to get a LCADA facility; it is good for the community.

◆ **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Lou DeLoss moved to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Pat Nahrstedt. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

◆ **NEXT MEETING/FUTURE MEETINGS**

Meetings are held at 6:00 p.m. in the lower level conference room of the Professional Building on the first Monday of each month except where noted. There are no meetings scheduled in January, July, or August. The next meeting is scheduled for October 3, 2016.

Future 2016 Meetings

November 7 December 5

Future 2017 Meetings

February 6 June 5
March 6 September 11
April 3 October 2
May 1 November 6
 December 4

*Minutes provided by Rhonda J. Beck
Assistant Clerk to the Medina County Board of Commissioners*