

**KERRVILLE RECOVERY COMMUNITY COALITION
REGULAR MEETING**

May 24, 2021

On Monday, May 24, 2021, the regular meeting of the members of the Recovery Community Coalition was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Kendall Young, Chair for the online video conference meeting.

Members Present:

Kendall Young
Claudia Richner
Rick Stolzman
Christa Lovett
Brittany Andry
Sabine Kuenzel
Cynthia Tate
Leigh Ann Fitzpatrick
Randie Benno
Thomas Hurt
Joseph Duprie
Joe Pizczor
Nikki Saurage

Members Absent:

Michael Brooks
Leslie Marek

City Executive Staff Present:

Eric Maloney, Fire Chief

Visitors Present:

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1A. Approval of minutes of the April 26, 2021 meeting. The members approved the minutes as written.

2. RECOGNIZE PARTNERS AND GUESTS:

2A. Introduction of Partners and Guests. No guests were present.

3. REVIEW COALITION CREATION RESOLUTION:

3A. Overview of Council's charge to the Coalition. The portions of the resolution (26-2016 and 18-2018) that covers the City Council's charge to the Coalition were read after they were shared electronically with the members.

Discussion focused on the members' interest to further identify barriers that interfere with sound integration of the recovery community into the greater area community. These possible barriers/gaps listed by members included:

- a) Post-treatment medical services (after residential treatment but also outpatient treatment) are difficult or impossible to find for persons new to recovery. Of particular concern is a lack of injection sites which used to exist but doesn't anymore. On this particular issue, Mr. Pizczor offered to reach out to either Ashley Miller at MHDD or to Tracy Davis. Members also discussed that there needs to be better understanding of the access to care question – whether it lies more with lack of adequate information or with financial problems.
- b) Employment – matching employers that are open to hiring those new in recovery with willing and able labor pool is a barrier. There does not seem to be a "clearinghouse" of available jobs/work that is kept current. Among possible results of addressing this barrier could be something like a refrigerator magnet. Initial discussion along these lines included better identification of the boots-on-the-ground leaders, such as recovery home managers, rather than direct dissemination of information to the end users (residents themselves).

3B. List possible subcommittees for 2021/2022

- a) Social media/information dissemination
- b) Events (such as INOR) and "piggy back" opportunities such as the recent food drive.
- c) Policy
- d) Medical needs for persons in early recovery, with special focus on those in recovery homes
- e) Funding barriers/needs in recovery homes (possible scholarship opportunities)
- f) Employment

4. COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTERS:

4A. Update regarding future tour of CRCTX; Dr. Cynthia Tate. Tour will be on June 23 or 30. Dr. Tate stated we should contact her to sign up to go.

5. PREVENTION AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROMOTION VIA TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES:

5A. Summer community listening sessions; Ms. Sabine Kuenzel. Item was not discussed due to time constraints.

6. INTERNATIONAL NIGHT OF REMEMBRANCE 2021

6A. Discuss potential for in-person INOR, resource fair, other activities. Item was not discussed due to time constraints.

7. KERR COUNTY INTER-AGENCY NETWORK:

7A. Quarterly meeting update; Ms. Claudia Richner. Item was not discussed due to time constraints.

8. ADVOCACY RESOURCE CENTERS:

8A. Identify other recovery centers in the area for further research. Item was not discussed due to time constraints.

9. 87th LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION

9A. Session end and wrap up; Ms. Sherrie Layton. This item was taken out of order to allow for enough time for our guest to provide an overview of this year's legislative session. Ms. Layton provided an overview:

- a) The 150 day session will end soon – on May 31
- b) 6000 bills introduced – about 1200 passed
- c) Most of the bills that passed were linked to COVID and to the February ice storm power failure
- d) Rep. Murr is a "friend" of the recovery community and authored two bills for which Ms. Layton suggested members consider thanking him.
- e) HB 4 will expand recovery services, especially rural ones. This one passed through the House and is on the Senate calendar and looks like it will pass.
- f) SB 1827 set up a separate "account" for the Purdue opioid penalties that were ordered. Texas' portion will not go into the General Fund but instead be marked for recovery expenditures. Bill has passed and is awaiting Governor signature.
- g) HB 707 will require a study of recovery housing in the State
- h) HB 1694 - "Good Samaritan" bill – previously vetoed by the Governor but a scaled back one has been moving forward – it would not provide immunity from prosecution but would provide a defense to prosecution.
- i) Bills that probably won't make it: HB 3233 for a needle exchange program; a rural communities recovery centers ran out of time but did not have too much opposition; same with Medicaid billable services for PRSS (previously approved bill allowed for this but did not provide mechanism); HB 297 reducing patient rights training; HB 3331 patient brokering; HB 2599 parity law;
- j) Medicaid 1115 waiver from the Affordable Care Act was discontinued. Texas never did pass this portion of Medicaid.

10. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:

- 10A. CRC tour report-out for upcoming site visit
- 10B. Subcommittee formation and assignment of participants
- 10C Post-treatment injection sites for MAT gap in service – follow-up to ongoing attempts to coordinate needed services
- 10D. Other items left over from this agenda due to time constraints

11. CONFIRM NEXT MEETING, DATE AND TIME:

- 11A. June 28, 2021, 4:00 P.M.
- 11B. Discussion of possibility of in-person meeting and location. Chief Maloney stated that his office would follow up with members on this question.

ADJOURNMENT.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:11 p.m.

DATE APPROVED: 6/28/21

Dr. Kendall YZ

Kendall Young, Chairperson

ATTEST: Silene Young Secretary