

**Monroe County Substance Use Disorder Community Awareness Commission (SUDAC)  
meeting notes**

**Date:** March 15, 2024

**Time:** Noon-1pm

**Location:** Nat U Hill room at Monroe County Courthouse

**Present in person:** Peter Iversen, Kathy Hewett, Ashley Collins, Melanie Vehslage, Penny Githens, Patricia Cummings, Karen Wrenbeck

**Present online:** none noted

1. Call to Order (Peter Iversen, County Council)
2. Officer Nominations and Vote
  - a. Penny Githens motion to approve Peter Iversen as President and Melanie Vehslage as Secretary. Kathy Hewett seconds. Unanimous approval.
3. Vote on Meeting Schedule
  - a. Time, Date, Location and official name.
  - b. Motion and second to remain SUDAC meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday at noon – unanimous approval
4. 2024 Educational Summit (Planning Committee Representative)
  - a. Since the last SUDAC meeting, met 2-3 times, and made the following progress:
    - i. Save the Dates have been posted to Facebook from SUDAC page and Health Department page and have been distributed to Committee members for distribution to our networks.
    - ii. We have a draft agenda of topics, with Committee members assigned to each to find and secure speakers; are working to retain speakers for the event (Prof. Pescosolido confirmed by Penny); deadline for securing speakers is May 1, as that gives us just slightly more than 120 days out from the event to start firming up plans with Markeys
    - iii. The Committee recommends going with the catering estimate secured by Penny that includes light breakfast, soup and salad bar for lunch, tea and coffee for about 500 people, an estimated cost of \$16,583.50 (untaxed)
    - iv. Markeys initial estimate is \$15,825.10, but won't know the final cost until closer to the event, when we are able to have a more certain idea of our speaker needs
    - v. The Community Foundation is interested in knowing whether any opioid settlement funds may be used to financially support this event.
    - vi. Our next Planning Committee meeting is 4/2/2024; it is a goal to have drafts of sponsorship solicitation letters and materials by then.
  - b. Tony Toomer has been asked to come and provide keynote wrap-up.
5. RFP/RFQ process to hire an event planner for the Summit.
  - a. Penny motioned that the commissioners be asked to put out an RFP for an event planner for the summit. Kathy seconded.
  - b. Timeline would be ASAP
  - c. Unanimous approval
6. Opioid Settlement Grant (Penny Githens, Commissioner)

- a. County Council approved money to purchase van for IRA
- 7. Opioid Settlement Working Group (Penny Githens, Commissioner)
  - a. Have reached out to Mayor Thompson to join conversation
  - b. Looking at recovery housing – have reached out to Heading Home
  - c. Working on a formal application process for both agencies and individuals to give access with standard set of criteria open to the public
    - i. Note that application draft still has wording about COVID that will need updated.
    - ii. Need to specify how often and how much groups can request
  - d. May want to establish as formal body in the future, possibly as subcommittee
  - e. Next steps: add Auditor to conversation, move to Council and Commissioners to formally adopt application
- 8. Integrated Reentry and Correctional Support (IRACS) program and Certified Recovery Community Organization (RCO)
  - a. RCO needs to be established, Nick from IRA and Jordan at NLNL have been in discussion to support opening an RCO in Monroe County.
  - b. Potential to bill Medicaid for certain things with the right type of peer certification that is also required for RCOs which could add program sustainability
  - c. Mr. Whitaker needs to meet with additional partners in the community, but could qualify mid-2024 if all partners are in place
  - d. IRACS could guide some of development of the new jail if IRACS adopted
- 9. Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) Update (Melanie Vehslage, Health Department)
  - a. CHIP cycle has ended, new CHA (Community Health Assessment in process.
    - i. See <https://bit.ly/3TiGOzs> for more CHA information
  - b. CHIP report not published but will be sent to SUDAC when it is ready.
  - c. Those continuing to work on CHIP have shifted to a SOFR (Suicide and Overdose Fatality Review) CAT (Community Action Team). Email [mvehslage@co.monroe.in.us](mailto:mvehslage@co.monroe.in.us) if interested in joining every 4<sup>th</sup> Monday at 10:30 am.
  - d. MCHD initiated NAMI SIM mapping which is not expected to happen with a facilitator until next year.
- 10. Approval of Minutes
  - a. Penny motion, Karen second, unanimous approval
- 11. Member Announcements and updates for any item not on the agenda
  - a. Patricia: continuing to work with folks that can't afford child support due to lack of ability to pay for basic needs
  - b. Karen: Opening available for Public Defender – apply on Monroe County website
  - c. MCHD providing Narcan training for City of Bloomington/Centerstone's Mental Health First Aid upcoming trainings. Contact [Charles.culp@bloomington.in.gov](mailto:Charles.culp@bloomington.in.gov).
  - d. Council is wrapping up ARPA investments
- 12. Adjourn

Next meeting: April 19, 2024

Meeting location: Monroe County Courthouse