

**CONTRA COSTA COUNTY ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
MINUTES**

Wednesday, July 27, 2016

Alcohol and Other Drugs Services

1220 Morello Ave, Second Floor Large Conference Room

Martinez, CA 94553

Members Present: Tom Aswad, Guita Bahramipour, Robin Houdashell (late), Randolph Hencken, Hayden Padgett, Anne Sutherland M.D., Cathy Taughinbaugh

Members Absent: Jill Chioino (R), Antwon Cloird (E), Jerry Lasky (R), Katherine Webster (R)

Staff Present: Fatima Matal Sol, AOD Program Chief, Isabelle Kirske, AOD Prevention Coordinator

Member Liaisons: Sam Yoshioka - Mental Health Commission

TOPIC	ISSUE/CONCLUSION	ACTION/ RECOMMENDATION
I. <u>CALL TO ORDER</u>	The meeting was called to order at 4:18 pm.	TOM ASWAD CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 4:18 PM WHEN QUORUM WAS MET.
II. <u>Review and Adopt the Agenda</u>	Anne Sutherland M.D. opened the floor to adopt the agenda.	TOM ASWAD MMS HAYDEN PADGETT TO ADOPT THE AGENDA AS WRITTEN. MOTION APPROVED. AYES: Tom Aswad, Guita Bahramipour, Randolph Hencken, Hayden Padgett, Anne Sutherland M.D., Cathy Taughinbaugh NOES: None ABSENT: Robin Houdashell, Jill Chioino (R), Antwon Cloird, Jerry Lasky(R), Katherine Webster (R) ABSTAIN: none
III. <u>Review and Approval of Draft Minutes of June 22, 2016</u>	Approval of the June 22, 2016 meeting minutes. The minutes were approved as presented.	RANDOLPH HENCKEN MMS GUITA BAHRAMIPOUR TO APPROVE THE JUNE 22, 2016 MINUTES WITH NO CORRECTIONS. MOTION APPROVED. AYES: Randolph Hencken, Hayden Padgett, Catherine Taughinbaugh, Anne Sutherland M.D., Tom Aswad, Guita Bahramipour NOES: None ABSENT: Robin Houdashell, Jill Chioino (R), Antwon Cloird, Jerry Lasky (R), Katherine Webster (R) ABSTAIN: none
IV. <u>PUBLIC COMMENT</u> The public and Board members may comment on any agenda item of public interest within the jurisdiction of the Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Board. (Maximum three minutes per speaker.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">David expressed that he believes Marijuana is becoming a big epidemic with this generation and if legalized it will be an issue in the future. No matter how much we see this plant as a medicine, it is, and will forever be a drug. Marijuana can be a mind altering drug with effects of calming,	

numbing or paranoia. He stated that he smoked marijuana since he was 14 years old and he experienced paranoia. He thought everyone was trying to get him which led to a car-jacking idea because he was running for his life. He believes that marijuana is a dangerous drug but that is based on his personal experience.

- Jessie stated that she is concerned about the children who are already predisposed to use and abuse. She expressed a desire to keep marijuana as it is currently, with stipulations on it and specific channels to go through for access. If it is easy for a 13 year old girl or boy to get alcohol, how easy will it be for them to get marijuana if legalized?
- Fatima Matal Sol reported that the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA) passed congress and is moving to the president for his signature. This is a start into prescriber education and would allow nurse practitioners and physicians to prescribe Buprenorphine and other medications that are available now for people who are addicted to opiates. Also CARA allows for incentives for monitoring the abuse or diversion of prescription drugs in a way that it has not been done before.
- Randolph Hencken reported that August 31st is International Overdose Awareness Day and he was wondering if the Board knew about it or was planning to do anything.
- Harold Parsley stated that he attended a recovery celebration for Ujima graduates in which there were a number of small children in attendance. This led him to think that the decisions that are made now are going to affect those little children. As decisions are made, he said it is important to think about the impact on the children. Harold was an active Board member 6 years ago and he fought against the legalization of marijuana at that point. There was an 8% increase for youth ages 12-17 in one year after legalization of recreational marijuana in Colorado. There was a 40% increase in drug related suspensions and expulsions from the school year 2008-2009 to 2013-2014 in Colorado. There was a 20% increase in age's 12-17 probationers testing positive for marijuana since recreations marijuana was made legal. Harold left the Board with the question: Do we want the health and welfare of our children to be guided by money and power, or do we want to do something now and control it before it gets started?

- Michael reported that at the age of 12 he started smoking marijuana. When he was 17 ½ he was arrested for strong arm robbery while under the influence of marijuana and alcohol. Since then, he has been in and out of incarceration. He believes that if he did not start smoking marijuana at an early age, he may not have fallen into drugs and alcohol. Michael stated that his biggest concern is people driving while high. He believes that if he was not under the substance of marijuana that he may have made different choices in his life.
- Michael stated that he is against the legalization of marijuana because when he was 14, he was able to buy alcohol or find someone of legal age to buy it for him. Marijuana was never a problem to get when young. Michael believes we can compare the alcohol problem with the marijuana problem. A lot of youth who become alcoholics start by drinking their parent's alcohol. He does not see that changing with marijuana either. A concern he stated was how to monitor use at school, he believes youth can be high while on campus and no one will know it, because teachers are not trained to recognize it.
- Jaime Rich reported that people who work with community coalitions focus on factors that might increase youth access to marijuana or alcohol. The last California Healthy Kids Survey for the Acalanes School District reported that 50% of 11th graders say it is easy to obtain marijuana, and it is currently illegal. With legalization there will be more marijuana around, and when there is more marijuana use will increase. Jaime reminded the Board that the brain is still forming until the age of 25, there are receptors in the brain that are activated when people are doing things they enjoy. If youth smoke marijuana, it activates those receptors, and for youth who repeatedly use, they cannot have that pleasure any other way, but getting high. One in six youth who try marijuana may become addicted.
- Roman stated that from his personal experience with marijuana use his judgement, response to stimuli and interest diminished. The only thing that he cared about was where to get more. He said that the offensive smell of marijuana use is a community health issue which exposes children and families.
- Phyllis reported that she grew up in a family that dealt with addiction. She removed

herself and her daughter from the environment because she did not want he daughter to grow up around that environment. Phyllis stated that children do not learn what adults tell them, they learn through their experiences. If youth live in a house where people drink alcohol, that person grows up thinking that it is ok to drink alcohol. The same can be said about marijuana.

- Guita Bahramipour thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Guita stated that when she is out in her community she receives questions from community members about how: alcohol compares to marijuana, the difference between the addiction to marijuana and alcohol, and youth access.
- Tom Aswad reported that on August 28th at 11:30 at Civic Park in Walnut Creek Support 4 Recovery and the Contra Costa County MED's Coalition will be hosting a rally for national drug awareness day.

V. AOD Chief's Report

Fatima Matal Sol submitted the Chief's report in writing as requested by the Executive Committee. She made herself available for questions.

VI. COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

Executive Committee

No report was given.

Appoint Hayden Padgett as Chair of Programs and Services Committee.

Anne Sutherland M.D. appointed a committee chair.

HAYDEN PADGETT WAS APPOINTED AS CHAIR OF PROGRAMS AND SERVICES. HAYDEN GRACIOUSLY ACCEPTED.

Appoint Chair to Community Awareness Committee.

Anne Sutherland M.D. opened the floor for volunteers to join the Community Awareness Committee.

HAYDEN PADGETT MMS CATHERINE TAUGHINBAUGH TO POSTPONE APPOINTMENT OF THE COMMUNITY AWARENESS COMMITTEE CHAIR UNTIL THE BOARD HAS MORE MEMBERS. MOTION APPROVED.

AYES: Anne Sutherland M.D., Tom Aswad, Guita Bahramipour, Randolph Hencken, Hayden Padgett, Catherine Taughinbaugh

NOES: None

ABSENT: Robin Houdashell, Jill Chioino (R), Antwon Cloird, Jerry Lasky(R), Katherine Webster (R)

ABSTAIN: None

Updating By Laws to reflect Board Structure Changes and Other

The Executive Committee is reviewing the bylaws to replace the Public Policy Committee

HAYDEN PADGETT MMS RANDOLPH HENCKEN TO MAKE CHANGES TO THE BYLAWS.

and youth and family committee with the programs and services committee. Board members were asked to submit other changes to the Bylaws if needed.

MOTION APPROVED.

AYES: Catherine Taughinbaugh, Anne Sutherland M.D., Anne Sutherland, Guita Bahramipour, Randolph Hencken, Hayden Padgett

NOES: None

ABSENT: Robin Houdashell, Jill Chioino (R), Antwon Cloird, Jerry Lasky(R), Katherine Webster (R)

ABSTAIN: None

Community Awareness

Community Awareness does not have any members at the present. There was no report.

APPOINTMENTS TO THIS COMMITTEE WERE POSTPONED.

2016 National Recovery Month: Recovery Champion.

Staff reported that September is National Recovery Month and the Community Awareness Committee sponsors the 2016 National Recovery Month, and the Recovery Champion Award. Nominations are exclusively submitted by Board members. The goal of this award is to nominate people who have focused their efforts around recovery.

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS IS FRIDAY AUGUST 19TH.

Program and Services

Programs and Services did not meet, there was no report.

VII. MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES.

Tom Aswad thanked the chair for putting the item back on the agenda. Tom reported that he is really interested in knowing that everyone represents a constituency and attends the Board meetings on behalf of those people. He stated that Support 4 Recovery has taken a stand against the legalization of Marijuana and that they will no longer work in conjunction with Alcohol and Other Drugs Services Advisory Board based on their previous decision. Tom reported that from Contra Costa County Alcohol and Other Drug Treatment Admissions data approximately 83% of youth between 12-18 years old who are in treatment are there primarily being treated for Marijuana Addiction. Among adults in treatment 15% are there with Marijuana as their #1 drug of choice. He reminded the Board that one of the goals of the Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Board is to lessen youth access to marijuana and at the last meeting the Board voted against its own goal.

A discussion ensued about whether to rescind the previous vote to support the legalization of marijuana. Some of the key points and public comment are as follows:

Catherine Taughinbaugh stated that she believes that no one who voted in support did so as a way to promote drug use.

Jill Ray reported that the Board of Supervisors does not plan to make a decision about supporting or opposing the legalization of marijuana as they are waiting to hear the results of the ballot in November.

Michael Dyer reported that as a member of the Native American Community he often works on issues around health disparities, in which marijuana falls. Marijuana affects low income urban communities in a different way than it does in a middle class rural community. Michael urged the Board to keep that in mind when making a decision. Marijuana is already a big norm amongst the youth in Richmond, so if marijuana is legalized it will only become more prevalent. The Native American Community already is dealing with depression and substance use at an unprecedented rate versus other ethnicities. Marijuana would only be yet another obstacle.

Anne Sutherland M.D. recommended reading Proposition 64 because it specifically states no marketing to children which can be inferred to mean no candies. She added that the current system is not working because youth are already using. This proposition would mandate education and regulation.

Randolph Hencken reported that he believes he represents the community he has been chosen to represent because he reads what happens on the local community boards. This was not a vote to promote drug use but a vote that the current system is not working so the belief is to regulate it in order to have better protections for our youth.

**TOM ASWAD MMS CATHERINE
TAUGHINBAUGH TO RESCIND THE
BOARDS PREVIOUS DECISION TO
SUPPORT THE LEGALIZATION OF
MARIJUANA**

Public Comment ensued on the motion to rescind the Boards previous decision to support the legalization of marijuana.

Isabelle Kirske read a letter on behalf of Debbie Berndt. The letter summarized her concerns about the Board supporting the legalization of Marijuana. Her letter indicated that the people who are behind Proposition 64 are purely in it to make money, and not make the communities safer. She urged the Board to read the full proposition language in order to understand its meaning.

Marijuana Legalization for
Recreational Purposes continued

Patty Hoyt of the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Team in San Ramon Valley said that Danville and San Ramon decided to ban the cultivation and delivery of medical marijuana out of concern of quality of life for their constituents. Both communities want life in those areas to be free from the odors of outdoor grows, free from youth access. If Prop 64 is legalized municipalities cannot ban indoor grows, so the bans that Danville and San Ramon have put in place will be ignored. If legalization happens youth use will increase and ease of access will increase as well, working in direct opposition to the goals of the prevention field in Contra Costa County. Colorado's legislation also states that they will not market products to youth, and yet they still have marijuana laced gummy candies. It is of her opinion that everyone's personal opinions need to be put aside when sitting on an Advisory Board.

Guita Bahramipour asked the Board to think about density of marijuana shops in neighborhoods and if allowed how many should be in certain areas.

Fatima Matal Sol stated that she was in shock following the decision made by the Board last month. Historically there has been only one instance in which the Board has taken a different stance in opposition to Alcohol and Other Drugs Services. This instance was in reference to needle exchange during the HIV epidemic. Fatima informed the Board that the contract that Alcohol and Other Drugs Services has with the Federal Government restricts staff from supporting groups or taking a position supporting legalization of schedule one drug, such as marijuana.

**HAYDEN PADGETT MMS
CATHERINE TAUGHINBAUGH TO
CALL THE QUESTION, END
DEBATE, AND RESCIND THE
BOARDS PREVIOUS DECISION TO
SUPPORT THE LEGALIZATION OF
MARIJUANA. MOTION APPROVED
ONE ABSTENTION.**

AYES: Anne Sutherland M.D., Catherine Taughinbaugh, Tom Aswad, Robin Houdashell, Guita Bahramipour

NOES: Randolph Hencken,

ABSENT: Jill Chioino (R), Antwon Cloird, Jerry Lasky(R), Katherine Webster (R)

ABSTAIN: Hayden Padgett

**CATHERINE TAUGHINBAUGH
MMS HAYDEN PADGETT TO
INSTRUCT THE EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE TO DEFER THE**

Marijuana Legalization for
Recreational Purposes continued

**MARIJUANA DECISION UNTIL
AFTER THE NOVEMBER
ELECTION ON THE AUGUST
BOARD MEETING. MOTION
APPROVED**

AYES: Hayden Padgett, Catherine
Taughinbaugh, Tom Aswad, Anne
Sutherland M.D., Guita Bahramipour,
Randolph Hencken, Robin Houdashell

NOES: None

ABSENT: Jill Chioino (R), Antwon Cloird,
Jerry Lasky(R), Katherine Webster (R)

ABSTAIN: None

**HAYDEN PADGETT MMS
CATHERINE TAUGHINBAUGH TO
ADJOURN THE MEETING AT
6:10PM. MOTION APPROVED.**

AYES: Hayden Padgett, Catherine
Taughinbaugh, Tom Aswad, Anne
Sutherland M.D., Guita Bahramipour,
Randolph Hencken, Robin Houdashell

NOES: None

ABSENT: Jill Chioino (R), Antwon Cloird,
Jerry Lasky(R), Katherine Webster (R)

ABSTAIN: None

VIII. LIAISON REPORT

Contra Costa County
Interjurisdictional Council on
Homelessness

Meeting was adjourned.

Tobacco Prevention Coalition

Meeting was adjourned.

Mental Health Commission

Meeting was adjourned.

Appoint Board member to CPAW

Meeting was adjourned.

Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention
Coalition

Meeting was adjourned.

X. OLD BUSINESS

Alcohol License Initiatives

Meeting was adjourned.

Countywide Youth Commission

Meeting was adjourned.

Approval of AOD Advisory Board
Goals and Objectives.

Meeting was adjourned.

X. NEW BUSINESS

EPIC Youth Summit Policy
Recommendations.

Meeting was adjourned.

AB 1322 (Daly) Alcoholic Beverages:

Meeting was adjourned.

Licenses: Beauty Salons and Barber Shops

XI. PUBLIC COMMENT

The public and Board members may comment on any item of public interest within the jurisdiction of the Alcohol and other Drugs Advisory Board. (Maximum three minutes per speaker.)

Meeting was adjourned.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 6:10 PM.