

**BRUNSWICK COUNTY SUBSTANCE USE  
AND ADDICTION COMMISSION  
MONTHLY MEETING  
February 7, 2019 6:00 p.m.**

**ATTENDANCE:**

1. The following members were present:
  - Ms. Melody Bass
  - Mr. Eric Gushue
  - Mr. William Eberle
  - Ms. Kathleen Gomes
  - Mr. Wesley Hickman
  - Cpt. Stephen Lanier
  - Ms. Resea Willis
  - Mr. Tyler Smith (representing Joshua Torbich)
  
2. Members absent:
  - Ms. Catherine Cooke
  
3. Health Services staff present:
  - Cris Harrelson, Health Services Director
  - Allison Campbell, Health Services Health Educator

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting of the Brunswick County Substance Use and Addiction Commission was called to order by Cpt. Stephen Lanier, Chairman at 6:00 p.m. in the Health Services Board Room (Building A).

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Cpt. Stephen Lanier asked for public comments. Public comment was provided by Rocky Atkinson from Brunswick Christian Recovery Center. Mr. Atkinson reported that BCRC is having a “fantastic year”, and that they are going to be able to double in size and become able to house 36 males. He addressed the question, “What about women?” Mr. Atkinson presented BCRC’s plan for developing a new women’s recovery home at the location of a current Bed and Breakfast. BCRC plan to initiate a capital campaign to raise the funds for the purchase and renovations. They hope to provide housing for 20 women and 3 staff.

Kenan Bridges from 4-H explained a prevention program initiated by 4-H, (“The Empowering Youth and Families Program” is for parents and youth ages 10-14). This is an 11-week program concluding with an event where participating families get together at a 4-H camp. The first cohort will begin in Leland in March.

## REGULARLY OCCURRING ITEMS

- A. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes accepted and approved (Hickman/Eberly) as submitted.
- B. **Agenda Adjustments:** There were no adjustments.
- C. **Review of Monthly Data:**
  - 1. **State Opioid Reports** - Mr. Harrelson noted that this is a quarterly report.
  - 2. **Brunswick County Sheriff's Office Reports** -Captain Lanier presented January statistics. He reported 2 overdose deaths in January. One death was from heroin and the other prescribed medication. This is down from 3 deaths one year ago (in January 2018). Captain Lanier reported an increase in methamphetamine confiscation. 36 grams were intercepted in January.

## OLD BUSINESS

- A. **Substance Use Media Campaign:** Mr. Harrelson and Allison Campbell presented power point slides of various options for the billboard campaign, including locations and prices. Discussion followed regarding benefits of certain locations and use of digital vs. traditional billboard. It was determined that 3 locations of traditional billboards, which would be rotated so as not to lose attraction. The three locations identified were location 1 (US17 1.5 miles north of WY 904) Location 2 (US HWY 17 N 1060 mi N/O ST Hwy 211) and location 3 (US 17 1.6 MIS/O NC 87). These sites were selected to cover the county and Allison will come back to the committee with financial information for keeping the billboards for 6 months and 1 year. Chris Harrelson stated that he has requested financial supports from the county and wanted the approval of the committee to move forward with a request for funding.
- B. **“Celebrate Recovery” Event:** After discussion of various options of creating an event, the committee decided that it would be best for the first year to create visibility and presence in all events already occurring in the county. This would involve subcommittees to manage hand outs and give aways to create visibility. Concern was expressed about reaching diverse sections of the community (those in recovery, family members with addicted members, and those in the community who have had no contact with the topic. Suggested themes, and names for the movement are “Recovery Strong” and Hands of Hope”. It was agreed that both of these themes should be included to reach different audiences Harrelson volunteered to speak to doctors about addiction and the importance of

limiting medication to patients. Joshua Torbich was selected to coordinate the event programming, and Resea Willis stated that she would contact the local Chambers of Commerce to build a list of events which will be happening through the year. It was decided by the committee that a single event presented by the Commission was not the best direction to follow for the first year.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A.** Opioid Misuse and Overdose Prevention Summit: Chris Harrelson presented information about the Opioid Misuse and Overdose Prevention Summit being held in Raleigh on June 11-12 information can be obtained on line from DHHS <https://files.constantcontact.com/023aa8ab001/9a04541d-099b-4ac0-9176-f70e101fc781.pdf>

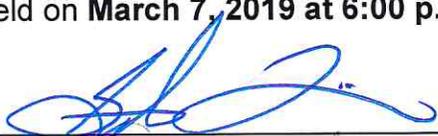
**B.** Open Discussion on Substance Use Matters: Bill Eberly presents an idea about reaching community members and building awareness. He presented a list of topics members (or others) could contribute as letters and articles. Resea Willis will contact North and South Brunswick Magazines to see if they would publish articles. Wesley Hickman stated that he would talk wit a few newspaper contacts to see if they would run a series. Committee members agreed that this might be a good avenue to pursue, and several members volunteered to write articles

**COMMISSION INPUTS:**

Notes for the MARCH meeting - Solidify plans and identify key players to attend events in the community, and to determine needs for publicity

**ADJOURNMENT:** Move to adjourn (Lanier/Gomes). There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

The next Brunswick County Substance Use and Addiction Commission meeting will be held on **March 7, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

**Brunswick County  
Substance Use and Addiction Commission  
Attendance Roster 2018-2019**

NAME	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
Bass	X		X	X				
Cooke	X		X					
Eberle	X		X	X				
Gomes	X		X	X				
Gushue	X			X				
Hickman	X		X	X				
Lanier	X		X	X				
Torbich	X		X	X-sub				
Willis	X		X-sub	X				

**O = Off Board**

**X = In Attendance**

**X-sub= sent representative**

**Blank Space = Absent**

**Quorum = 5 members present**

**^ = Specially Called Meeting**

**\* = No Meeting**