

**BRUNSWICK COUNTY SUBSTANCE USE
AND ADDICTION COMMISSION
MONTHLY MEETING
May 5, 2019 6:10 p.m.**

ATTENDANCE:

1. The following members were present:
 - Cpt. Stephen Lanier
 - Mr. William Eberle
 - Ms. Kathleen Gomes
 - Ms. Melody Bass
 - Ms. Catherine Cooke
 - Mr. Joshua Torbish

2. Members absent:
 - Mr. Eric Gushue
 - Ms. Resea Willis
 - Mr. Wesley Hickman

3. Health Services staff present
 - Cris Harrelson,, Brunswick County Health Services Director

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting of the Brunswick County Substance Use and Addiction Commission was called to order by Cpt. Lanier at 6:10 p.m. in the Health Services Board Room (Building A).

PUBLIC COMMENT: No Public comment

REGULARLY OCCURRING ITEMS

- A. Approval of Minutes:** Minutes accepted and approved (Torbish/Eberle) as submitted.

- B. Agenda Adjustments:** Two items added to Old Business: D. Summit and E. Detox. One item added to New Business: C. Overdose awareness

- C. Review of Monthly Data:**
 1. **State Opioid Reports** –No Report

2. Brunswick County Sheriff's Office Reports – Cpt. Lanier reported that there were 44 felony drug arrests, and 45 misdemeanor drug arrests in March. There were 168 doses of Heroin confiscated. Cpt. Lanier reported that this is about average, but is trending down due to Naloxone, and timely arrests. Cpt Lanier report that April's numbers should be significantly higher due to a major drug bust. He reported that cocaine and methamphetamine are the growing problems in the county. Cpt. Lanier shared information regarding the new tracking system called Zuercher which is a field operations app that public safety officers can use from a phone. This will speed up reporting and assist in the creation of real time information sharing. This system should be in place soon.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Substance Use Media Campaign:** Mr. Harrelson presented the group with a packet of possible posters to be placed around the county with various slogans, and tear off phone numbers on the bottom. Committee members were asked to review and comment next month. The committee discussed the possibility of using a number other than Trilliums Careline to see if another resource could provide more useful information to a caller. Suggestions included Mobile crisis, or linking to a phone app.
- B. Outreach Related Activities:** Discussion generated several ideas regarding how to target different populations in the community. Mr. Torbish suggested holding awareness meetings at middle schools in the county. Cpt. Lanier suggested a visitor center concept. The concept of designing an app which could be uploaded, and also be used in the tear offs for the media information. Cpt. Lanier offered to investigate, and take leadership of this concept. Everyone agreed that creating a resource such as this would be easily spread, and long lasting. Mr. Torbish suggested that committee members could consider what information should be included, and others recruited to help develop the lists, contact information, and details regarding each resource. Ms. Gomes suggested that members could research what is available in their region.
- C. Public Awareness in the County** Mr. Eberle shared that the first articles should be showing in the Brunswick Beacon soon, but that the editor wanted several articles submitted before he would begin. Mr. Eberle encouraged commission members to select topics and put together an article. There are currently two articles (Hickman/ Gomes) Mr. Eberle reported that he is almost at the place where he can send in articles for publication in the papers. He is hoping to find an author for an article on the economic cost of drug use, and also how treatment keeps people safer. Ms. Bass mentioned that we should consider planning something to observe Federal Addiction month in October.
- D. Opioid Misuse and Overdose Prevention Summit:** Mr. Eberle plans to attend and bring information for clergy who attend the Summit. Mr. Hickman still plans to

attend (by report). Mr. Harrelson will be presenting at the Summit on "What Local Health Departments Are Doing in Response to the Opioid Crisis" Mr. Eberly stated that the goal of attending is to gather information, and to network, especially with other SU County Commissions. Mr. Eberle asked for Committee members to review the workshops and make suggestions as to what He and Mr. Hickman should attend or focus on.

<https://files.constantcontact.com/023aa8ab001/9a04541d-099b-4ac0-9176-f70e101fc781.pdf>

- E. **Detox:** Mr. Torbish reported that he will be talking with RHA representatives to find out what could be done to get them to develop a detox facility here in Brunswick County, and investigate how the county could support this effort. Mr. Torbish has spoken to two County Commissioners about this topic, and he stated that they appeared to be supportive.

Motion to move to new Business (Torbish/Cooke)

NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Commission Supplies:** Mr. Harrelson reminded the members that the deadline for requesting money for this year is the end of May.
- B. **Proposal for Commission Subgroups:** The subgroups were adjusted to the following: App Subgroup, led by Cpt. Lanier; Detox Subgroup, led by Mr. Torbish, and Media Subgroup (leader not identified, but Mr. Eberle and Mr. Harrelson have made major contributions to this area of activity). It was stated that Outreach would likely be accomplished through the other efforts, or could be reactivated later. All commission members agreed to contribute to committee work.
- C. **Overdose Awareness:** Ms. Bass presented information about the "Tree of Hope" event which took place on August 31, 2018. The Back Off group plans to make the tree planting an annual event. It is not yet selected where in the county the second tree will be planted (first one being in Mulberry Park, Shallotte). Ms. Bass was requesting the Commission's support/ involvement in this event. More will be discussed when plans are further along.
- D. Discussion was held about members who consistently miss the monthly meeting. The commission members agreed that the appointing county commissioner should be notified, and that county commissioner should contact the member about attendance and/or consider another representative if necessary

COMMISSION INPUTS:

ADJOURNMENT: Move to adjourn (Lanier/Gomes). There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

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

Brunswick County Commission Meetings Minutes

Joshua A. Jones

Chairperson

Justin Jones

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	X		x	
Cooke	X	*	X			X	x	
Eberle	X	*	X	X	X	X	x	
Gomes	X	*	X	X	X	X	x	
Gushue	X	*		X		X		
Hickman	X	*	X	X	X	X		
Lanier	X	*	X	X	X		x	
Torbish	X	*	X	X-sub	X	X	x	
Willis	X	*	X-sub	X	X-sub	X-sub		

O = Off Board

X = In Attendance

X-sub= sent representative

Blank Space = Absent

Quorum = 5 members present

^ = Specially Called Meeting

* = No Meeting