



SARA INNAMORATO
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

**Drug and Alcohol Planning Council
Meeting Minutes
Microsoft Teams
Wednesday, March 12, 2025**

Present: Charles Davis, Anne Cox, Jessica Northcott-Brillati, Fred Quinn, Daniel Garrighan, Gabby Warner, Jackie Slaughaupt, Jeffrey Long, Mario Browne, Tonisha Wilson, Maisha Howze, Assistant Director, Bureau of D&A Services; Colleen Sokira, OBH Special Projects Manager; Sarah Bigelow, OBH Special Projects Assistant

I. Introductions, Attendance, and Minute Approval
Charles Davis called the meeting to order at 4:32 pm.

All present introduced themselves.

January 2025 minutes approved.

II. Announcements

1. [2025 State of Human Services presentations](#)
 - i. Sent these links to the Council recently but will also drop in the chat
 - ii. In past years, this has been a presentation done multiple times – this year, each presentation focuses on a different area of DHS's services
 - iii. All sessions will be recorded and posted on Allegheny Engage
2. DHS Drug and Alcohol Community Symposium
 - i. Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Services is sponsoring a community symposium on **Saturday, March 29**
 - ii. To register – QR code on the slide or [at this link](#)
 - iii. There will be interactive breakout sessions so staff can learn what is happening in your community and what you'd like to see going forward, speakers, and resource tables
 1. Free parking at the Human Services Building lot (1 Smithfield St)
 - iv. Please also bring any program participants who are interested as well
 - v. **Question:** Is the conference free?
 1. **Answer:** Yes, but you do need to register.
 - vi. **Question:** Do you need people to help run it?

1. **Answer:** Yes, can connect you to Jeneen Asque-Wilson, who is planning the conference.
- vii. **Question:** for those tabling, what time should we arrive?
 1. **Answer:** Contact Jeneen who should have already emailed you when you registered to table
3. DHS Director Erin Dalton plans to attend a future Council meeting
 - i. Tentatively scheduled for the July meeting - will keep you updated
4. Spotlight PA has been doing a lot of reporting around the Opioid Settlement Dollars
 - i. Asking for feedback about how the opioid crisis has impacted you, your family, and your community
 - ii. Can offer feedback at [this link](#)

III. Bureau Updates

1. BDAS receives its funding from PA DDAP: flows from the feds to the state to the county
 - i. Currently have not received this year's notification of funding
 - ii. This year is also the start of a new 5-year grant agreement
 - iii. Currently not looking at new programming or increasing allocations to contracted providers because we are not sure if allocations will be increasing
 - iv. Maisha will send an update when she has one

IV. Public Comments

1. As a note, this section can also be used for items that didn't make the agenda or for additional announcements
2. To that end, is this Council interested in creating a workgroup to review its bylaws?
 - i. Bylaws were last reviewed in 2008
 - ii. Interested members: Anne, Daniel, Fred, Jessica, Tonisha
 1. Interested virtually and/or passing back and forth as a shared document
 2. DHS staff will set up an email group and send the bylaws to help get started, and can help set up Teams meetings if that is desired
 - iii. Timeline expectation – up to Council to decide
 - iv. Colleen can send screenshots on how to access the current bylaws in Govenda
3. [Teetotal Initiative](#)
 - i. Works to create free sober events throughout the Pittsburgh area
 1. Wide variety of activities, includes a lot of creative arts

- ii. New organization – around a year and a half
- iii. Joined today to learn more about what this Council does and let folks know that they're around – serve everyone, no matter how old someone is or how long they've been sober
 - 1. 1200 people joined their events last year and on track for 2000 this year
- iv. **Question:** are these events for people who are sober, who are in recovery, or both?
 - 1. **Answer:** we use those terms interchangeably – we don't ask at the door and includes people at many stages. Agnostic and not affiliated with any program – focus is on the program that attendees are involved in
- v. You can email Jackie at jackie@teetotal.org

V. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

VI. **Next Public Meeting**

The next public Drug and Alcohol Planning Council meeting will be on **Wednesday, May 15** from 4:30 – 6 p.m. **in person** at the Human Services building (1 Smithfield Street).

DHS staff sent an invitation to this meeting earlier today and will send a reminder for this meeting the week before. There is also a link posted on the [DHS advisory board webpage](#).