

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

Wednesday, February 28, 2018

Diablo Valley College

**321 Golf Club Road, Diablo Room, third floor of the HFS Building,
Pleasant Hill, CA, 94523**

Members Present: Anne Sutherland M.D., Anthony Segovia, Antwon Cloird, Guita Bahramipour, Michael Collins, Tom Aswad, Victor Lecha (late)

Members Absent: Catherine Taughinbaugh (E), Courtney Cummings (E), Lanita Mims (R), Sunita Frey (E)

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>	Anne Sutherland M.D. called the meeting to order at 4:10 pm when quorum was met.	ANNE SUTHERLAND M.D. CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 4:10 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 ANTWON CLOIRD TO ADOPT THE AGENDA WITH ONE EDIT, CHANGE THE DATE FOR THE ITEM "REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF DRAFT MINUTES OF DECEMBER 13, 2017" AND INSTEAD TO READ JANUARY 24, 2018. MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY. <u>AYES:</u> Guita Bahramipour, Anthony Segovia, Michael Collins, Anne Sutherland M.D., Antwon Cloird, Tom Aswad <u>NOES:</u> None <u>ABSENT:</u> Catherine Taughinbaugh, Courtney Cummings, Lanita Mims, Sunita Frey, Victor Lecha <u>ABSTAIN:</u> None
III. <u>Review and Approval of Draft Minutes of January 24, 2018</u>	Approval of the January 24, 2018 meeting minutes. The minutes were approved as presented.	ANTWON CLOIRD MMS MICHAEL COLLINS TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 24, 2018 MINUTES AS PRESENTED. MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY. <u>AYES:</u> Anne Sutherland M.D., Guita Bahramipour, Tom Aswad, Antwon Cloird, Anthony Segovia, Michael Collins <u>NOES:</u> None <u>ABSENT:</u> Catherine Taughinbaugh, Courtney Cummings, Lanita Mims, Sunita Frey, Victor Lecha <u>ABSTAIN:</u> 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">• Anthony Segovia stated that he would like to have the Community Awareness Committee meetings on a monthly basis instead of every other month.• Fatima Matal Sol introduced the new Substance Abuse Counselors: Denise Haverty, located at the Central County Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health Clinic, Peter Wong, located at the Central County	

Adult Mental Health Clinic, and Lacey Williams, located at Brookside Shelter in Richmond. Fatima also reported that on February 27th there was a Youth Town Hall to discuss the Proposed Marijuana Regulatory Framework and one of the key take aways was that the distance the county is proposing, 1,000 feet, is too close to youth sensitive areas like schools and parks. She thanked Dr. Sutherland and Anthony Segovia for their attending the Youth Town Hall.

- Dr. Sutherland reported that the Youth Town Hall went very well and that youth were very well spoken on the topic.
- Tom Aswad invited Board members to attend Support4Recovery's (S4R) "Alumni Strong 2018" event on April 28th from 6:00pm – 9:00pm in Concord. This event is an opportunity to bring together alumni from county funded programs to discuss what the different associations are doing. This event is free for the first 100 people who RSVP.
- Antwon Cloird stated that aftercare is an important part of the recovery process and support is needed.

V. Proposed Framework for Regulating Cannabis in the Unincorporated Area of Contra Costa County

Anne Sutherland M.D. introduced Kristen Solseng and Jamar Stamps, staff from the Department of Conservation and Development (DCD) who gave a presentation on the Proposed Framework for Regulating Cannabis in the Unincorporated Area of Contra Costa County. A few key points from the presentation were as follows:

- In November 2016, California residents passed Proposition 64, the Adult Use of Marijuana Act. In doing so it approved a dual permitting process in which businesses need both a local approval and state approval in order to operate.
- Contra Costa County Health Services is working on a separate Public Health Ordinance.
- The Board of Supervisors are considering creating caps on the allowed number of cannabis businesses within each supervisorial district, but before implementing them they wanted to conduct public outreach.
- The early estimate is that Contra Costa County could gain anywhere from \$1million - \$10 million if a tax is put in place.
- There is currently a tax measure being prepared for the 2018 ballot.
- DCD is considering imposing either a 1,000

feet buffer from sensitive sites such as schools, parks, playgrounds, homeless shelters, and Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment programs, and/or a 500 feet buffer from residential areas.

- DCD is also looking at imposing a 500 feet buffer between cannabis businesses.

Following the presentation Anne Sutherland M.D. opened the floor for public comment on the presentation. Public Comment was as follows:

- Michael Collins wanted to know if it can anticipated that the Health Ordinance is completed at the same time as the land use ordinance. He believes it is critical that the two ordinances are implemented simultaneously.
- Sam Yoshioka stated that Contra Costa County has a little over 1 million residents. He is curious to know how many people live in unincorporated communities. Sam added that there are counties that have similar demographics like Alameda and Sacramento and he was interested to know what those counties are doing about recreational marijuana.
- Denise Haverty commented that she believes that setting a cap on cannabis businesses is a great idea, and asked if there will be an application process.
- Antwon Cloird asked where the money from the cannabis taxes will be going within unincorporated Contra Costa County. Antwon indicated that Richmond will only allow three (3) businesses resulting from concerns of oversaturation in the community. He also said that people need to benefit from the businesses in their neighborhood. Antwon asked that DCD look at the areas where they are planning to place businesses, in order to determine how many patrons they can handle.
- Kathryn reported that she is a parent of a student at Miramonte who suffers from an addiction to marijuana. She said that some students have medical marijuana cards and are selling products to other students. She believes that if we bring in recreational marijuana businesses, we are sending the message to our youth that “marijuana is cool.” She believes that there needs to be strict regulations, specifically around mobile cannabis deliveries which, she believes, is how youth are accessing marijuana currently.
- Victor Lecha said that he wants to make sure there is a fair process for the

implementation of permits. He wanted to know how the county will determine who applies for a permit. Mr. Lecha stated that he would prefer a Request for Proposals (RFP) process.

- A community member stated that in Richmond there is a dispensary within 100 feet of Albany Hill Park and youth steal the marijuana once disposed. The same community member was also concerned about how police will be able to tell when people are under the influence of Cannabis.
- Kennedy reported that Cannabis is not a gateway drug, it is the most commonly used illicit substance. He stated that people can use Cannabis to wean themselves off of prescription medications. He also stated that to keep Cannabis out of the hands of kids we need to put good regulations in place. It is his belief that if the County bans marijuana, it will increase the black market operations.
- Brian shared that his friends consume CBD oil and they consider it a miracle drug. Personally he considers marijuana to be a gateway drug. He also recommended that Contra Costa County should have a liaison who is knowledgeable on this topic, so regulations can be done right. Brian believes that 500 feet is too close, because that is just across the street.
- Guita Bahramipour said that she believes that the majority of Cannabis tax revenue goes to the Police Department. She added that she would like to make sure funds go to prevention and treatment services.
- Discussion ensued about establishing a similar procedure for Marijuana licenses in which the AOD Board provides input and recommendations in relationship to alcohol licenses anytime a new alcohol license application is submitted to the Department of Conservation and Development.
- Peter wanted to know how businesses can be prevented within the city limits.
- Tom Aswad said that buffer zones of 1,000 feet should be the minimum. He also stated that in 1996 he took part in a study on adolescent treatment and saw how underserved they are as a demographic. He believes that tax money should go to fund adolescent treatment services.
- Jaime Rich commented that youth are already inundated with marijuana messaging. She also shared that at the Youth Town Hall attendees asked that cannabis businesses be at least 5,000 feet away from youth sensitive areas. Jaime

believes that we do not need any more marijuana businesses. Most cities have banned everything so she is interested to know why the County is looking at allowing businesses. Jaime also pointed out that delivery should not be allowed and shared that Concord now allows delivery, as a result they are now experiencing people stealing from the vehicles.

- A community member said that she believes that banning medical marijuana is a bad idea because they see that it is already hurting the community. She stated that there are people who count on marijuana as their medicine, who have not had access to it since January 1st when the dual licensing structure went into effect.
- Kathryn affirmed that opioids cannot be refilled for 30 days. She would like to have the County regulate how much marijuana people can have in their possession at any time.
- Patty Hoyt reported that she has been going to the Municipal Advisory Council Meetings and City Council meetings within the San Ramon Valley and there has been a lot of opposition to marijuana businesses. She believes that the 6 plants allowed to be grown indoors are enough and that the county should not allow outdoor cultivation. She expressed concern about how to prevent youth from accessing outdoor grows. Patty also reported that she is working to add marijuana to the Social Host Ordinance in Danville and San Ramon and that she would like Contra Costa County to do the same.
- Victor reported that it is good to talk about regulation in order to vacate the black market. He is interested to learn how much of the funds from Colorado go to law enforcement vs. treatment.
- Fatima Matal Sol stated that the county has a Social Host Ordinance, but the problem is that it is not being consistently enforced. She believes that we need to advocate for the enforcement of such Ordinance.
- Greg, a representative from the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML), stated that the evidence shows that marijuana is not a gateway drug. He shared that NORML would like to see the overall negativity related to marijuana change. He also pointed out that a 600 foot buffer is what NORML recommends.
- Erin commented that the disease of addiction is personal, but it should not be what drives the regulations. She believes

that the tax money should go towards funding prevention services to teach students elementary age through college age about the risks of Cannabis use and brain development.

- Guita stated that youth are trying substances and that is where addiction starts. She would like to focus the attention on preventing youth use.
- Anne Sutherland M.D. stated that she believes we are a disease oriented society and not prevention oriented. She believes that the best way to keep youth safe is to educate them on the harms.
- A community member was curious to know who will make the decision on where the tax revenue will go.
- One community member shared some statistics from the *Journal of School and Health* declaring that cannabis is not a gateway drug. She shared that the *National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)* reported the majority of people who use marijuana do not go on to use other substances. She also stated that it is important to look at where the data is coming from to see if it is valid.
- Talia Moore reported that she lives in El Sobrante and she does not want to see her community as the part of the county where everyone travels to, in order to buy marijuana. She also believes that there needs to be a serious conversation about where the money from the tax dollars will go.
- Ricardo Simental reported that he represents the Monument Corridor, in Concord, where the community sees themselves as a “dumping ground.” The community feels like marijuana can be destructive in the family, so the community would like to see more education for youth and parents.

VI. AOD Staff Report

VII. COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

Executive Committee

Fatima Matal Sol submitted the Staff report in writing as requested by the Executive Committee. There was no verbal staff report.

Community Awareness
- People Who Make a Difference Awards

Anne Sutherland M.D. reported that the Executive Committee discussed a lot of topics that have been tabled to the March Agenda such as: the Goals and Objectives, the alcohol license initiative and SB 905 (Wiener) Alcoholic beverages: hours of sale.

Programs and Services

Guita reported that the nominations for the 2018 People Who Make a Difference Awards will begin on March 1st and the nomination period will be open through Friday, April 13th.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

Alcohol License Initiatives. ARCO, 2747 Willow Pass Road, Bay Point, CA. Deferred until March.

2018 Board Goals and Objectives. Deferred until March.

IX. LIAISON REPORTS

Contra Costa County Interjurisdictional Council on Homelessness

Tobacco Prevention Coalition

Mental Health Commission

Contra Costa County Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention (MEDS) Coalition - Proclamation declaring March as Prescription Drug Abuse Awareness Month

X. NEW BUSINESS

SB 905 (Wiener), Alcoholic beverages: hours of sale. Discussion & Vote in March.

Formally Welcome Anna Roth, the new Director of Contra Costa County Health Services Department. Discussion.

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.)

XII. ADJOURNMENT

There was no report.

There was no discussion; this agenda item was deferred until March.

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Guita Bahramipour reported that she took part in the Point in Time count. The interview questions asked people if substances played a role in their homelessness. During the interviews they handed out the 211 cards for people to get help if they need it.

Anne Sutherland M.D. reported that there is now a multi-unit housing ban for smoking and vaping in Unincorporated Contra Costa County.

Sam Yoshioka reported that the Mental Health Commission received a presentation from Captain Chalk from the Sheriff's Department who discussed the expansion of the West County Jail. He reported that the design has been completed and is going out for a bid.

Michael Collins reported that the Coalition is focusing on Prescription Drug Abuse Awareness Month. Michael also reported that he will be accepting the proclamation from the City of Oakley on March 13th declaring March as Prescription Drug Abuse Awareness month. He also reported that he had the first call with the California Opioid Safety Network that is providing training to core members of the coalition.

Discussion was postponed until March.

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- Patty Hoyt reported that the SB 905 (Wiener), Alcoholic beverages: hours of sale bill is going to the Senate Government Organizational Committee on March 13, 2018. She reported that she will send an action alert.
- Hector Jaimes reported that there is a workshop entitled "Stinking – Thinking!" that is being held on March 29, 2018 at 6pm in Antioch and it will discuss harmful thinking patterns.

Anne Sutherland M.D. adjourned the meeting at 6:21pm.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:21PM.