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**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PROBLEM GAMBLING
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, November 16, 2023
10:00 a.m. to Adjournment**

Note: Items may be taken out of order, combined for consideration, and/or removed from the agenda at the Chairperson's discretion. The public body may combine two or more agenda items for consideration. The public body may remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item on the agenda at any time. The public body may place reasonable restrictions on the time, place, and manner of public comments but may not restrict comments based on viewpoint.

1. Call to order/roll call – Alan Feldman, Chair

This meeting was called to order at 10:06 a.m., by Chair Alan Feldman, requested Mrs. Garcia take attendance of members.

ACPG Members Present:

Alan Feldman, Chair
Shane Galster
Stephanie Goodman
William Theodore Hartwell
Constance Jones
Dr. Shane Kraus
Lesley Pittman
Denise Quirk, Vice Chair
Richard Taylor

Quorum was met.

2. Public comment– Alan Feldman, Chair

(No action may be taken upon a matter raised under the public comment period unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item.)

Chair Feldman, Chair asked if there was any public comment.

A public comment was made by Ms. Quirk, she mentioned that a National Award was given to a person within the ranks of the meeting today. Denise stated that "This individual has advocated tirelessly for problem gambling services for nearly three decades. His work has also included research, training and building public awareness, said Keith White, executive director of the National Council on Problem Gambling.

The Don Hulen Award for Advocacy, which is designed to recognize exceptional advocacy work to improve the lives of those affected by problem gambling, is incredibly well deserved. Named for

Don Hulen dedicated problem, gambling advocate, founder of the Arizona Council on Compulsive Gambling and longtime and CPG board member, the Don Hulen Award for Advocacy recognizes exceptional advocacy work to improve the lives of those affected by problem gambling, and that award went to Dr. Jeff Marotta.”

3. For Possible Action

Approval of Minutes September 21, 2023, meeting - Alan Feldman, Chair

Chair Feldman, Chair made a motion to agree to table the previous meeting minutes until he can further address the corrections needed to be made. There was no objection. The board agreed.

Mr. Hartwell mentioned that regarding the previous meeting minutes, there is a correction in Section 5, 111 as to the name of Roberta Miranda’ Alfonzo’s name spelling and being hyphenated.

4. Informational

Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) and Bureau of Behavioral Health Wellness and Prevention Updates (BHWP)

- a. Discussion on Fiscal Report – Andrea Allen, DPBH, Contracted Administrative Service Officer I

Ms. Allen introduced herself and went over the Fiscal report for Budget 3200/Prevention and Treatment of Problem Gambling, CAT 19. Ms. Allen also mentioned they have CAT 20, known as their Christmas Tree Program from SB341, that hasn’t made any obligations yet. This concluded her presentation.

- b. Discussion on Program Updates - Kim Garcia, BHWP, Social Services Program Specialist III

Ms. Garcia introduced herself and explained Program updates stating that as of the 1st quarter they are about 22% spent for the year. She mentioned that a lot of business happens at the end of the fiscal year and that they are planning to be at 100% expended. Ms. Garcia also mentioned that they cannot go overspending and that it’s right on target for spending the money allocated completely.

Chair Feldman mentioned that Ms. Garcia is tracking the Program very carefully. If it does appear they will go over, they will adjust accordingly so that does not happen. He added that an option is to have a discussion with interim finance to possibly rebalance as they go.

Dr. Marotta added to this, saying that this is an important aspect of the system to track because it can be very fluid. Meaning expenditures are based on the billing that comes in, one Hope Medical Center didn’t have billing for the first quarter, which is to be expected. Dr. Marotta also stated they are a startup, and in being so it is not a good predictor of what’s going to be happening in the next few quarters. Dr. Marotta also mentioned that they really need to pay attention to what is going on with the International Problem Gambling Center, because they have the largest stake of the Gambling Treatment Funds. He stated it looks like they’re running close to 30% but it

could be 25%. It may not look large, but they make up half of the entire treatment budget. Possibly more. Dr. Marotta added that we need to be concerned because of those factors, so it isn't a challenging situation at the end of the year, and to raise those red flags early on.

Mr. Hartwell made a comment stating that the Council's longstanding position in that treatment is critical and should be the last thing to drop out. Mr. Hartwell mentioned that the council will work with Mrs. Garcia to find areas that either the Conference hand or Prevention Funds to allocate back into treatment.

Chair Feldman highlighted that Providing treatment services has been the primary purpose for what they are doing. Ms. Pittman asked if pre-allocation from different pots of the Budget to move more money into treatment categories, like a Work Program approved by Interim Finance Committee.

Ms. Goodman mentioned that there is fundraising out there, and that there shouldn't be any worry about anything terrible.

Dr. Kraus spoke, adding that if they are training this way next quarter then it's a good opportunity to make it publicly known. Dr. Kraus mentioned speaking to different organizations that discuss that they are running out of money would be a good idea, because treatment is important. He also mentioned that he believes that they will be good. He believes it will be a compounding issue, and rather than waiting until the end of the budget year, if they're seeing a trend to advocate as a group to legislatures and the public.

Mr. Hartwell also mentioned, he had gotten a request of the Gaming Control Board for information on trending data related to calls to the helpline in both Nevada, and Nationally on any information that could be provided on trends with regards to treatment seeking. Mr. Hartwell stated he is working to compile the data, as well as following up on his request to let gambling licensees know that the National Helpline number had changed over the past year. He mentioned the request for a change of literature with the new helpline as well.

5. Informational

Presentation and Discussion of Annual Gambling Treatment Evaluation Report for SFY 23 -
Andrea Dassopoulos UNLV IGI

Ms. Dassopoulos presented a slideshow on the Annual Gambling Treatment evaluation report underwent a robust conversation and needs usage of the report.

Chair Feldman asked if we were trying those numbers someplace else. Ms. Dassopoulos replied yes. She also mentioned that this is just the enrollment data.

Chair Feldman noted that it would be nice in the future to see if there is a proportional relationship between the numbers.

Ms. Jones mentioned that the chart doesn't show much impact for treatment needed and she knows that's not the case.

Chair Feldman, Chair replied that COVID had an enormous impact on the numbers.

Ms. Dassopoulos mentioned that in 2018, there were 7 clinics. She added that she'd make a note to dig deeper into the numbers of the chart, to give a better explanation.

Ms. Lesley Pittman asked what website they refer to.

Ms. Dassopoulos said that they combined the Treatment Centers website and other commonly used websites.

Chair Feldman asked if a jail or prison sentence or a previous arrest specifically related to gambling are a part of their past finance gambling circumstances.

Ms. Dassopoulos replied that they don't know specifically what the reasonings are, but they can reply to more than one circumstance.

Ms. Goodman asked if per the last slide, that video games are good or not good in their circumstances.

Ms. Dassopoulos reported that based on the questions asked people replied that games have not contributed to their addiction.

Ms. Dassopoulos presented a slide on Treatment outcomes and Treatment effectiveness specific to Gambling.

Chair Feldman noted that on the chart presented the lowest number is 94%, and that that is a tremendously good percentage. They are getting the help they need, and the program is working.

Dr. Kraus mentioned that he wonders if the satisfaction levels were lower in the past, and if satisfaction retention that's higher she could show as an improvement.

Dr. Kraus mentioned that the presentation was great. He approved of them and found them interesting. He said when considering outreach, to possibly factor in where we target people who might be struggling for advocacy for education regarding treatment. Dr. Kraus stated that we should be targeting some of the financial ups, the lender, the banks, cash and go places for example. And get them to help give data.

Ms. Goodman mentioned that they need to bring to the Legislature, for places like that to carry materials on gambling addiction.

Ms. Pittman endorsed what Mrs. Goodman mentioned and reiterated that it would be a great tool for them to use through the Legislative interim. Using the data that is received by these Financial Institutes to develop a proactive agenda in 2025.

6. Informational

Advisory Committee on Problem Gambling Work Group Updates

a. Discussion on Legislative Subcommittee Updates – Stephanie Goodman, Legislative Subcommittee Chair

Ms. Goodman discussed the plan development for the next Session in 2025. Ms. Goodman mentioned they will be meeting after the first of the year to discuss the action plan. She stated she did have a meeting with Mr. Kirk Hendrick, stated that Mr. Hendrick recommended they move forward to determine where they plan to get their funding going forward in the 2025 session, and that they speak with the Legislature regarding this. Ms. Goodman mentioned that for the next meeting they will have a more robust report, and for now they will continue to work with all parties involved. As of now they are just putting together what they want to do moving forward.

b. Discussion on SB341 Funding Workgroup Updates - Alan Feldman, Chair

Chair Feldman, Chair discussed the SB341 Funding Workgroup, mentioning that many key discussions have been undergone on how this money will be spent. He stated they have been gathering information from the public as well as giving information to the public. Mr. Feldman mentioned that there is a current discussion undergoing on the budget and how the money is to be spent, stating that it is an evolving conversation given their time frame. He reiterated that nothing would happen until they figure out if it's affordable. Mr. Feldman said that there will be several meetings across the State on this topic and questions will be asked on what needs to be done, what is being done and what is happening within specific communities. Mr. Feldman mentioned that this is an important job and that it will take more than just one person to make this work. In the end they are going to be very specific about what the plan is. Mr. Alan Feldman Chair asked if there were any questions or comments, there was one.

Ms. Jones said she went through the PowerPoint from the previous meeting and wanted to know if Mr. Feldman needed/wanted answers to the questions? Mrs. Connie stated that it is the audience that are the decision makers and who are the community stakeholder groups.

Ms. Jones also asked who would be working on the Budget? Chair Feldman replied that now KPS3, Kim Garcia, Dr. Jeff Marotta and himself are working on the budget.

Chair. Feldman mentioned that 3 or 4 conferences need to be had to get where they need to be. He also mentioned that Mr. Hartwell has graciously offered to have the Las Vegas meeting the day prior to the State Conference and that Northern Nevada and Carson still need to be figured out.

7. **Informational**

Advisory Committee on Problem Gambling Governance

a. Committee Membership – Alan Feldman, Chair

Chair Feldman noted that there was no new committee membership at this time.

b. Discussion on Position Statement or Show of Support letter – Alan Feldman, Chair

Chair Feldman reiterated that there are always very strict rules in place by the Attorney General's Office. Chair Feldman said that no one including himself is allowed to speak officially for ACPG without prior approval. He mentioned that Ms. Pittman is their official representative on all things legislative.

8. Informational

Discussion on Future Meeting Dates and Agenda Items – Alan Feldman, Chair

Chair Feldman mentioned SB 341 Funding workgroup needs to be added to the agenda item on a further date.

Ms. Garcia agreed and mentioned ideas for a Future meeting date. The next meeting date is scheduled for Monday, February 12 @10:00 a.m.

Chair Feldman discussed that agenda items as action items will be discussed on a further date.

Ms. Garcia mentioned that a Deputy Attorney General refresher course for reminders and reallocation plans need to be added to the next agenda.

9. Announcements – Alan Feldman, Chair

International Center on Responsible Gambling Conference – October 8-10 - Las Vegas

Chair Feldman, reiterated congratulations to Dr. Marotta on the Don Hulen National award, mentioning that it is not given lightly and how it speaks volumes to the work he has done.

10. Public comment – Alan Feldman, Chair

(No action may be taken upon a matter raised under the public comment period unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item. To provide public comment telephonically, dial 775-321-6111. When prompted to provide the Meeting ID, enter 244 644 178#. Comments will be limited to three minutes per person. The person making comments will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name and provide the secretary with written comments.)

Chair Feldman asked if there was any public comment, there was none.

11. Adjournment - Alan Feldman, Chair

Thursday, November 16, 2023, at 11:16 the meeting was adjourned.