

OPEN MEETING MINUTES

Name of Governmental Body: WI Council Mental Health Criminal Justice Committee			Attending: Erica Loomis, Mary Delaney, Mike Soukup, Julie Bliefnick, Shameeah Flowers, Julia Polk
Date: 8/15/2024	Time Started: 10:04am	Time Ended: 12:09pm	Staff: Ann Kelley Kuehmichel
			Other: Retired Sheriff David Mahoney, James Davis, Chanelle Baines, Deputy Secretary DOC Melissa Roberts, Holly Audley, Hannah Foley, Monique Larson Hicks, Leilani Nino,
Location: Microsoft Teams			Presiding Officer: Rebecca Wigg Ninham
Minutes			

1. Review minutes June 2024

Review of the June Minutes for accuracy. Motion to approve the minutes made by Mike Soukup and seconded by Juli Bliefnick.

2. Welcome/Introduction: Assistant Deputy Secretary Department of Corrections: Melissa Roberts Deputy Secretary DOC introduced herself to the committee described her years of experience and provided updates related to work being done to restrictive housing that has expanded to consistent operations within all adult facilities. Also discussed updates related to community-based programming and safely supporting individuals at the lowest level within the community. Discussed a more consistent presence by herself or someone else designated by DOC to report consistently to the committee on progress and updates. Any concerns or questions related to individuals may be directed to the docgeneral.wi.gov email or to herself to follow up on.

<https://doc.wi.gov/Pages/DataResearch/InteractiveDashboards.aspx>

<https://doc.wi.gov/Documents/AboutDOC/PressReleases/24.06.03DAIProgressReport.pdf>

<https://doc.wi.gov/Documents/AboutDOC/PressReleases/24.07.22%20WC%20update.pdf>

3. Committee membership

a. New Committee Members

Application <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/wcmh/crimjustice.htm>

Email applications to ann.kelleykuehmichel@dhs.wisconsin.gov

b. Co-Chair position

Motion to accept Juli Bliefnick as the co-chair and is present. Juli introduced herself and her passion to the committee. Christopher Zahn historically expressed interest and is not present today. Seconded by Shameeah Flowers. 7 in favor no opposition. Motion carries. Welcomed and appreciation to Julie Bliefnick as co-chair of the Criminal Justice Committee.

c. Introduction of interested Committee members, Retired Sheriff David Mahoney and James Davis CPS, PAIR Program Supervisor. Mr. Davis shared detailed information regarding Tellurian Behavioral Health and the CPS PAIR (Program Peer Advocates in Recovery). The program provides community-based peer supportive services. Mr. James discussed the benefit of using peers who have their own lived experience and how they can assist their peers. They provide the necessary resources and help individuals may need to meet and set goals, and offer hope for recovery and wellness.

<https://www.tellurian.org/programs/peer-advocates-in-recovery>

<https://www.tellurian.org/our-team/james-davis>

4. Updates from the Mental Health Council

a. Legislative & Policy Updates: Mike Soukup

Reminder that we are in the Budget request cycle. Suggestions to make sure treatment and diversion is included in the budget for this committee to act. Looking to finalize and move things along in September.

5. Mental Health Action Partnership: Julia Polk

NAMI WI administrative support for MHAP. Criminal Justice workgroup to work on policy recommendations related to many of the things the CJC is discussing. If interested reach out to Julia Polk for further information.

MHAP Learning Session on September 27th about Crisis Services in Wisconsin. Note: this was originally scheduled for tomorrow, August 16th and was rescheduled for September 27th. Registration:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcof-uvpzogG9cB-TQ0e3YDG5uEZAfk-ITA#/registration>

MHAP Summit October 16 in Milwaukee from 9 am to 3 pm. Registration:

https://namiwisconsin.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3HMTlSE5DooelXs

If you are interested in learning about the Mental Health Action Partnership or joining the new MHAP Criminal Justice Workgroup, please email me at julia@namiwisconsin.org

6. Revisit June 20th action related to Waupun Correctional Institution: Rebecca Wigg-Ninham

Due to the lack of public notice this topic was picked up within the “other” topic on the agenda and therefore we do need to revisit. After the meeting/update from Asst. Deputy Secretary suggestion was to move to not use a letter and move forward with a less formal approach by establishing the relationship with the Department of Corrections. At this point considering the relationship is being built, a regular member may be more advantageous for the group to be able to learn and share.

7. Committee Strategic Plan Workgroup Check-in:

a. Criminal Justice Committee Strategic Plan Presentation: Rebecca Wigg-Ninham

b. Update: Chief Justices Summit on Mental Health: Rebecca Wigg-Ninham

c. Update: Outreach

i. Treatment Court

ii. Sheriff’s Association

iii. Forensic Peer Support

8. Public Comment

9. Follow-up Meeting 10-12 September 19th

Motion to have a follow up meeting to complete the August meeting. Seconded by Juli B. Discussion: this will be an opportunity to finish up the meeting from today. No added comments. Agreement: no opposition.

a. Next Wisconsin Mental Health Council Fall Tour September 17th and 18th.

10. Adjourn: Rebecca Wigg Ninham motion to adjourn, seconded by Juli Bliefnick

Prepared by: Ann Kelley Kuehmichel on 8/15/2024.

These minutes are in final form. They were presented for approval by the governmental body on: 9/19/2024