

## **AGENDA**

### **TOLLAND MENTAL HEALTH & SUBSTANCE USE ADVISORY TASK FORCE**

**October 2, 2023 – 7:00 P.M.**

### **ZOOM REMOTE MEETING**

1. Call to Order
2. Public Participation
3. Approval of Minutes: July 17, 2023
4. Final Recommendation to for Town Council Meeting - October 24, 2023
5. Cancellation of October 16, 2023 Meeting
6. Public Participation
7. Adjournment

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89729769700?pwd=QlmDWGrKhdiU6EZkuvn1cbUqVFWXub.1>

Meeting ID: 897 2976 9700

Passcode: 09232023

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# **Tolland Mental Health & Substance Use Advisory Task Force**

## **REMOTE ZOOM MEETING**

**July 17th, 2023 – 7:00 PM**

**Members Present:** Becky Moore (Chair), Jacob Marie (Secretary), Rita Malenczyk, Darrell Irwin, Jayden Regisford, Jenn Gallichant

**Members Absent:** Jessica Palozie, Carleen Oehmsen, John Reagan, Colleen Yudichak

**Others Present:** Beverly Bellody (Director of Human Services), Caitlin Mather (Assistant Director of Human Services)

- 1) **Call to Order:** Ms. Moore called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.
- 2) **Approval of Minutes:** Mr. Marie moved to approve the May 1<sup>st</sup> meeting minutes. Ms. Malenczyk seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
- 3) **Public Participation:** None
- 4) **Points of Information:** Mr. Irwin noted that he will be resigning from the Task Force and that this will be his last meeting. The Task Force thanked him for his service and hard work.
- 5) **Hockanum Valley Community Council Prevention Specialist Proposal:** Ms. Bellody noted that the proposal has been put on hold as the Human Services department needs to focus on several summer projects, but reiterated that they are on board with the new position. Ms. Bellody added that she would, however, like to have a follow-up conversation with HVCC to remove the case management role from the proposal as that would duplicate a service Human Services already provides. After that, the next step would be to present the proposal to the Town Manager for final approval. Funding for the position would come from the opioid grant. Ms. Moore asked if the Task Force should vote on the proposal tonight. Ms. Bellody recommended that they wait until she is able to have her follow-up conversation with HVCC.
- 6) **Next Steps for Task Force:** Ms. Moore asked the Task Force about whether it thought it best to dissolve itself or recommend to the Town Council to convert it into a permanent commission. Ms. Malenczyk felt that it was not really up to the Task Force to make that decision. Mr. Marie said that he would defer to Ms. Bellody and Ms. Mather on whether they felt having a permanent commission would have value, as they would be working closely with it if one was formed. He also suggested that if a permanent commission is created, that it be smaller than the current Task Force, as it will be very difficult to find

volunteers for all twelve spots plus alternates. Ms. Bellody noted that the Local Prevention Council (LPC), which already exists, might perform a very similar role to a commission. Ms. Mather provided additional information about what an LPC does and added that it consists of town staff and residents and meets monthly. Ms. Moore suggested that the Task Force should bring a list of options to the Town Council regarding the Task Force's future and have them decide what's best. Mr. Regisford stated that he agrees that any future Task Force should be smaller and more "efficient," he also suggested that there should be youth involvement. The Task Force agreed by informal consensus to have Ms. Moore write up a list of options for the future of the Task Force and present to the Town Council. Ms. Bellody agreed to make sure that there would be no duplication of efforts if a permanent commission was formed. A brief discussion about when to present to the Town Council and when the next Task Force meeting would be held. The Task Force decided to meet again on August 21<sup>st</sup>.

**7) Public Participation:** None

**8) Points of Information:** None

**9) Adjournment:** Ms. Malenczyk moved to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Marie seconded the motion. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 7:32pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jacob Marie