



Augusta Local Council Meeting Agenda Wednesday, March 27th 2024 at 5:00 PM

To join by video, click link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8938611710>

To join by phone only (no computer needed), dial: 1-929-205-6099 Enter Meeting
ID# when prompted: 893 861 1710

No password needed!

Welcome, Introductions, Attendance & Review Meeting

Guidelines

Introductions:

1. Ice Breaker Idea:
Carrie

Attendance:

Review Meeting Guidelines:

Establish Quorum: ____ Yes ____ No

2. Forum Discussion: Housing and Unhoused Communities
Carrie
and
Sarah

Review & Adopt Meeting Agenda and Previous Meeting's Minutes: (Vote)

A) Review & adopt the current meeting's agenda: March 27th 2024

a. Motion to adopt made by:

b. 2nd by:

c. Discussion:

3. Y ____ N ____ A ____
Carrie



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| | <p>B) Review & Adopt Previous Meeting's Minutes from:</p> <p>a. January 24th 2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Motion and adopt made by:ii. 2nd by:iii. Discussion:iv. Y____N____A____ <p>C) October 2023's meeting remain unfinished and need updating to vote on at March's Augusta LC meeting.</p> <p>D) February 2024 Augusta LC meeting did not occur due to no attendance.</p> |
| 4. | <p><u>Ongoing Business:</u></p> <p>A) Continue discussion regarding changing the time of the Augusta Local Council meeting</p> <p>B)</p> |
| 5. | <p><u>New Business:</u></p> <p>A)</p> |
| 6. | <p><u>SCC Report</u></p> <p>A) SCC meeting was 2/23/2024.</p> <p><u>Issue Statement Development Subcommittee:</u></p> <p>A) Meets second Wednesday of every month from 10a-12p via Zoom.</p> <p>B) Issue Statement updates</p> <p><u>Legislative Subcommittee:</u></p> <p>A) Meets first Wednesday of every month from 10am-12pm via Zoom.</p> <p>B) Legislative Subcommittee updates</p> <p><u>Outreach:</u></p> <p>A)</p> |



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| | <u>Community Updates:</u> | | |
| | A) | | |
| 7. | <u>Future Agenda Items:</u> | | |
| 8. | <u>Meeting Reflection</u> | | |
| | 1) What went well? | | |
| | 2) What could be improved upon? | | |
| | Next meeting date: Wednesday April 24th 2024 at 5pm. | | |
| 9. | Meeting Recap & Next Steps | | |
| | Task | Who's Responsible | Due Date |
| | <i>Pre-read all meeting materials and attend next month's LC Meeting</i> | All | Monthly |
| | <i>Prepare Agenda and submit to Outreach Coordinator</i> | Carrie and Sarah | |
| | <i>Take meeting minutes then send to Outreach Coordinator</i> | Gail and Sarah | |
| | <i>Send out all meeting documents to all Local Council Members</i> | Sarah | At least 10 days prior to next meeting date |
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**Augusta Local Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 27th 2024 at 5:00 PM**

Welcome, Introductions, Attendance & Review Meeting

Guidelines

Introductions: 5:30PM

Ice Breaker Idea: Where did you go to elementary school?

1. **Attendance:** Chair: Carries Murray, Secretary: Gail Dietz-Sola, Laurie Wallace

Review Meeting Guidelines: Gail read

Establish Quorum: ____ Yes No

Forum Discussion: *Housing and Unhoused Communities*

Refer to typed up forum matrix attached to these minutes for reference to what was written on the whiteboard during the forum discussion.

Discussion: Housing and unhoused communities, how are the legislators looking at it? First is the need for low barrier housing for something semi-permanent all year round. How can we create something more long term? To help guide individuals to something more in an efficient way, where they feel like part of the community.

2. In town ideas were turned down because of certain barriers from other community members because of sanitary, drugs, and violence increasing. We need to find a solution because of the challenges of our other members being released from incarceration, mental facilities, just high cost of living even causing this escalation.

What these individuals need is a place to see things getting better for themselves, to work together seeing that together they can get off drugs. Being together they create safety for themselves, together by having non judgement while living through their reality. To give our community a feeling they can go forward together to become sober, find housing.



While understanding some in the community need to not judge even if the person loses it and starts yelling and screaming, you have no idea what they are dealing with and maybe by being in the stable environments they have, like group homes, not being treated like children and sent to their rooms.

There should be a conversation about the struggles and boundaries established of mutually building a relationship of set expectations, respect, and understanding.

Peer support is needed in these places, to teach teamwork instead of downgrading as we do not know what another person's issues may be. We need to stop the mental fallout. Give ways to deal by saying "What can I do instead?" Open avenues through communication, find a common ground to have crucial questions, to encourage distinguishable, knowledgeable conversations.

There are several life things that can happen to affect our mental health including injuries, pregnancy, divorce, and death. These processes affect different people different ways and can cause issues with housing needs. What resources are needed to help that might add value or support to keep people where they are. Case managers burnout quickly with such a huge work load, their incentives need to be stronger.

Communication like phones and how the cold affects the battery and replacing those are highly expensive, then you have other issues like bad weather and people having to gather their belongings quickly and that along with important documents or paperwork being destroyed or left behind. There is the mental health challenge for those trying to keep their housing with rents being increased with no repairs or updates or maintenance done to where they live. Is there still a search for some low barrier spaces since Green Street was rejected?

Review & Adopt Meeting Agenda and Previous Meeting's Minutes: (Vote)

3.

A) Review & adopt the current meeting's agenda: Motion made by Carrie, seconded by Laurie, no discussion. 3 Y, 0 N, 1 A.

B) Review & Adopt Previous Meeting's Minutes from January 24th, 2024: Motion made by Laurie, seconded by Gail, discussion yes (accepted



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| | <p>minutes given change to Forum discussion section. Add the words “Recovery Center” to the start of paragraph three that currently stargins with “Facilities.”) 3 Y, 0 N, 1 A.</p> <p>C) October 2023’s meeting remain unfinished and need updating to vote on at March’s Augusta LC meeting. Sarah will connect with Brittany and work on.</p> <p>D) February 2024 Augusta LC meeting did not occur due to no attendance.</p> |
| 4. | <p><u>Ongoing Business:</u></p> <p>A) Continue discussion regarding changing the time of the Augusta Local Council meeting. Conclusion was there is currently no need to change time until we build attendance the need occurs.</p> |
| 5. | <p><u>New Business:</u></p> <p>A) Community member Alex joined in February and plans to attend going forward.</p> |
| 6. | <p><u>SCC Report</u></p> <p>A) SCC meeting was 2/23/2024, no update.</p> <p><u>Issue Statement Development Subcommittee:</u></p> <p>A) Next meeting will occur as scheduled.</p> <p>B) Issue Statement updates: 1st draft of DLS statement needs to change the wording for people to have access for services be in line as with voting.</p> <p><u>Legislative Subcommittee:</u></p> <p>C) Next meeting will occur as scheduled.</p> <p>D) Legislative Subcommittee updates</p> <p><u>Outreach:</u></p> |



Rock n' Talks to build community awareness is going well. Outreach is also reaching out to place rock gardens in the community and with peers. Will be looking into adding geocaching for the gardens.

Community Updates:

A) "Updates and Announcements" is no longer part of the agenda for some reason with no discussion or voting. Add two sub sections of "In the community" and "at the office."

Future Agenda Items:

7. The Hope Conference is coming up in May and discussion of volunteers needed/options will occur soon.

Meeting Reflection

8. **1) What went well?**
 We used the white board in a matrix format to discuss the forum.

2) What could be improved upon?
 Next meeting stick to the flow of the agenda and arrive on time.

Next meeting date: Wednesday April 24th 2024 at 5pm.

9. **Meeting Recap & Next Steps**

| | Task | Who's Responsible | Due Date |
|--|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | <i>Pre-read all meeting materials and attend next month's LC Meeting</i> | All | Monthly |
| | <i>Prepare Agenda and submit to Outreach Coordinator</i> | Carrie and Sarah | 10 days prior to next meeting |
| | <i>Take meeting minutes then send to Outreach Coordinator</i> | Gail and Sarah | 10 days prior to next meeting |





Consumer Council System of Maine
A Voice for Consumers of Mental Health Services

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| | <i>Send out all meeting documents to all Local Council Members</i> | Sarah | At least 10 days prior to next meeting date |
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Augusta Local Council Forum Matrix

March 2024 – Housing and Unhoused Communities

| What is the issue? | Recommendations (What we want to see) | How will we know when we've solved this? |
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| 3 rd Group Home being added near corner of Chapel and Court Streets. This will make too many in one area. Leading to an increase in police presence and crime. Looks like KBH may hold the contract... | Open additional group homes in areas where there is a lack of presence already. | Clear communication to those impacted by group homes/locals/immediate community members. Make it clear who people need to reach out to with questions or concerns (direct number/contact.) |
| There is no peer support in group homes where there is a strong need. Many times, staff are there to give direction, not provide positive peer support with productive direction. | There needs to be trained Peer Support staff at the group homes where there is none currently. | |
| Severe lack of case managers to support those who are unhoused/seeking housing. Case managers are often “dropping the ball” and not following through. High burnout seems to be causing high turnover where you may not even know who your new/current CM is. They go too long without seeing/hearing from their CM. | | |
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