



Augusta Local Council Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, April 22, 2026 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, Attendance & Review Meeting Guidelines:

Introductions:

1. Ice Breaker Idea: If you could be any famous person, who would it be and why?

Attendance:

Review Meeting Guidelines:

Establish Quorum: ____ Yes ____ No

2.	Forum Discussion (One Hour): A) Aging/Seniors and Mental Health Needs-Part 2 B) Upcoming Topics for reference May/June: Crisis Response Services
3.	Review & Adopt Meeting Agenda & Minutes: (Vote) A) Review & adopt the current meeting's agenda: April 22, 2026 a. Motion to adopt made by: b. 2nd by: c. Discussion: d. Y_____N_____A_____ B) Review & approve the last meeting's minutes: March 2026 a. Motion to adopt made by: b. 2nd by: c. Discussion: d. Y_____N_____A_____
4.	Ongoing Business: A) Updates on task list

	B) Review progress on plan for community outreach/involvement
5.	New Business: A)
6.	Reports from SCC and Subcommittees: <u>SCC Report:</u> A) <u>Issue Statement Development Subcommittee:</u> A) Meets the second Wednesday of every month from 10a-12p via Zoom. B) Issue Statement updates: <u>Legislative Subcommittee:</u> A) Meets the first Wednesday of every month from 10am-12pm via Zoom. B) Legislative Subcommittee updates

7.	Outreach, Announcements, and Updates: LC Outreach: In the Community: At the Office:
8.	Future Agenda Items:
9.	Meeting Reflection 1) What went well? 2) What could be improved upon? NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, May 27, 2026 at 5pm

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Augusta Local Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 22, 2026 at 5:00 PM

1. Welcome, Attendance & Review Meeting Guidelines:

Introductions: Introductions completed at the start of the meeting for a new member in attendance.

Ice Breaker Idea: Participants answered the following: If you could spend time with one famous person, past or present, who would it be and why?

Attendance: Vicki McCarty (Chair), Melissa Caswell (Co-Chair/Secretary), Spencer Roberti, Joan Kelly, Nolan Thompson (left after forum discussion), Sarah Savage-Bellavance (Staff)

Review Meeting Guidelines: The group agreed to follow meeting guidelines.

Establish Quorum: X Yes No

2. Forum Discussion (Part 2): Aging/Seniors & Mental Health

This month's focus was on identifying key gaps and challenges that affect a senior's mental health along with some possible solutions. Key issues identified from the prior meeting: Isolation, food insecurity, transportation, insurance, and accessibility.

- **Key Gaps and Challenges:**

- Lack of housing options for seniors who are mentally aware but have physical limitations ("in-between" care).
- Shortage of healthcare workers.
- Systemic issues: different providers/systems do not communicate effectively, leaving needs unmet.
- Antiquated policies that hinder new service models.

● **Proposed solutions & Ideas:**

- Create staffed apartment buildings where seniors have private units with on-site support (PSS, CRMA).
- Partner with colleges (nursing, IT, education) to have students live in or volunteer at senior facilities in exchange for housing/credits.
- Develop intergenerational programs (e.g., co-locating preschools/classrooms with nursing facilities; senior colleges).
- Engage high school students (e.g., IT students assisting with technology) to fulfill community service requirements.
- Learn from other communities (e.g., Wabanaki elder programs) and existing models (e.g., "co-generation" housing).
- Improve outreach and education to re-engage community appreciation for elders.

3. Review & Adopt Meeting Agenda:

A) Review & adopt the current meeting's agenda: March 2026

a. Motion to adopt made by: Spencer

b. 2nd by: Melissa

c. Discussion: None

d. Y: 4 N: 0 A: 0

B) Review & approve the last meeting minutes: Minutes not completed-tabled voting until the May 2026 meeting.

4. Ongoing Business: Reviewed community outreach/involvement plan.

- *Inappropriate Emergency Room Discharge” Issue Statement:* Melissa has reached out to Kayden s Kitchen/Alter Shelter Admin staff and is currently waiting for a callback to schedule a meeting with them.
- *Follow on outreach, meeting attendance and resource surveys:* Spencer sent drafts surveys to Sarah and she is looking them over (topics: transportation, access to services and meeting attendance). She said the contents look good. The surveys will be hosted on the CCSM website and they are determining the best way to distribute them to consumers and providers. Each survey will also be distributed at the HOPE Conference via a QR code that will send them to the CCSM website to complete.
- *Community Collaborations:*
 1. **Augusta State Representatives:** Melissa re-sent the transportation proposal to Representative Bridgio and continues to try to connect with him for updates. Spencer suggested that we mail the proposal to him so it doesn't get buried in his emails. Will work on this with Sarah. Melissa also contacted all the other current state reps and senators, including the tribal representative. She left messages for all and spoke with tribal rep, Brain Reynolds, who expressed interest in attending today's meeting but did not show. She will continue outreach despite legislature adjournment.
 2. **Maine Recovery Access Center:** Spencer talked to Courtney and someone will be attending our meeting next month.
 3. **Phoenix Rising:** No update at this time.
 4. **Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence:** No update at this time.
 5. **NAMI:** Tracy is supposed to be emailing Sarah but has not as of yet.
 6. **UMA's Mental Health & Human Services Club:** Melissa has not

reached out yet but has started an email to a club advisor which will go out in the next few days.

7. LINC Presentation: Currently on hold as the Center Manager is on a leave of absence so Sarah has been unable to connect with her. Sarah will reach out to her again in the next few weeks.

- *Future Outreach:* Suggested we do a CCSM presentation to the Peer Support staff at Riverview, which is currently under new management. Next steps: Spencer to talk to the new peer support director and report at the next meeting.
- *Intercouncil Collaboration:* No update at this time.
- *CCSM Presentations to local mental health agencies:* Still in discussion stage; no new updates at this time.

5. New Business:

- *Inappropriate Emergency Room Discharge”:* Melissa connected with admin staff from Kaydenz Kitchen Food Pantry/Alter L/A Emergency Warming Center, and they are willing to collaborate with us. Both parties are working to schedule a meeting to discuss this issue.

6. Reports from SCC and Subcommittee

- **SCC Report:** Vickie gave a brief report on the April SCC meeting (regular business meeting month):
 - ***Regular business meeting held in April.***
 - ***Strategic Planning:*** The SCC will attend a strategic planning day on June 22 at Lithgow Library. Will review the current strategic plan and update as needed.
 - ***Summer Bash:*** A fun day is scheduled to celebrate CCSM’s accomplishments for the past year. This event will be held on August 27th starting at 10 am and will be held at Lake Saint George in Liberty, Maine. All are invited to attend. For those attending, you will need to pay the \$5 park fee and bring your own food and beverages. Rain date: Aug. 31, 2026.

- ***Bank Line of Credit:*** Recently increased due to the new way we have to do our finances. Since we now have to invoice the state for payments, this could cause delays and the line of credit gives us a buffer for paying bills and payroll.
- ***Office Downsizing:*** All furniture and office supplies not needed have been sold and we are now fully utilizing the new smaller office space. The bigger office we cleared out has not been leased out yet and there are no other updates at this time.

- **Issue Statement Development Subcommittee:**

- *Intersection of Law Enforcement and Mental Health Crisis (Concept Draft): Reviewed draft and had brief discussion. Research is still being done to find out what other starts are doing re: CIT training.*

Feedback Deadline: May 18, 2026

- *Inappropriate Emergency Room Discharge:*
 - The group held a brief discussion and new information emerged: DRM has already addressed one hospital regarding this same issue and took them to court.
 - Melissa connected with admin staff from Kaydenz Kitchen Food Pantry/Alter L/A Emergency Warming Center, and they are willing to collaborate with us. Both parties are working to schedule a meeting to discuss this issue. Asking the statewide issues subcommittee to hold off on the next draft until after this meeting is scheduled.

Feedback Deadline: May 18, 2026

Personal stories from peers related to each issue statement are needed as well. These can be forwarded to Kerri Pitts, Policy Advocate: kpitts@maineccsm.org.

Legislative Subcommittee:

- The CCSM is still working on coordinating a Gubernatorial Candidates Forum in collaboration with the REV-UP coalition. The group will meet

in May for a recap and then will be on hiatus for the months of June and July. Will resume meetings in August to prepare for the next legislative season.

7. Outreach, Announcements, and Updates:

- **LC Outreach:**

- *Podcast:* Season 2 (history of institutionalization) is now available.
- HOPE Conference: Coming up on May 13, 2026. Almost sold out!
- Rock & Talks: Staff is looking to hold these again as they were popular. If anyone knows of spaces that would like to host, please inform staff.

- **In the Community:** Nothing at this time.

- **At the Office:** See updates under SCC report.

8. Future Agenda Items: Need for a larger physical space (office/meeting space) and discussion of winter hours/location.

9. Meeting Reflection & Next Meeting:

- **What went well?** N/A
- **What could be improved upon?** N/A

Next Meeting is: May 27, 2026 @ 5pm