

New Hampshire Council for Responsible Gambling
Commissioners' Meeting Minutes
March 23, 2022 1:00 PM

Present: Chairman Maura McCann, Commissioner Ed Talbot, Commissioner Dot Duda, Commissioner Debi LaPlante, Commissioner Heather Gray

The meeting was called to order by Chairman McCann at 1:08pm. The meeting was televised by Microsoft Teams.

1. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 29, 2021 MEETING

Motion was made by Chairman McCann to approve the minutes of the December 29, 2021 meeting. Commissioner Talbot moved the motion and Commissioner Gray seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

2. REPORT BY THE COUNCIL OF PROBLEM GAMBLING (NHCPG)

Commissioner Talbot provided the NHCPG Treasurer's Report. Helpline activity this past quarter (1/1/2022 – 3-2-2022) recorded a total of 32 calls. Fifteen calls were specific to problem gambling while the others were press inquiries, informational and follow up calls. Commissioner Talbot reported that they were in discussions with a preferred candidate for the program manager position. At this time, the NH Council on Problem Gambling passed on completing the Agility grant application and will be discussing the possibility of doing this at a later date. Four Manchester, NH virtual Gamblers Anonymous Meetings were attended by Commissioner Talbot and he reported that as of the end of March, that meeting will move to Tuesday evenings, with a hybrid approach of in-person as well as the ability to meet with the group virtually. The meetings are held at Hope for Recovery NH, 293 Wilson Street in Manchester from 7 to 8:30 PM. Commissioner Talbot attended a meeting to discuss what the council is doing with Jennifer O'Higgins, Senior Policy Analyst in Behavioral Health at the Department of Health and Human Services. Ms. O'Higgins subsequently has referred the Problem Gambling Council to Doorways, Access Point Rapid Response programs and presentations have been delivered to both. Further, the council has been referred to the Suicide Prevention Committee for a presentation on April 25, 2022. There are several meetings planned in April for moving everything forward. Both Commissioners Talbot and Duda are working with New Hampshire Alcohol & Drug Abuse Counselors Association and for production of a three-hour virtual training (on demand) on problem gambling.

Commissioner McCann asked Commissioner Talbot about the much-needed updates to the NHCPG website regarding Gamblers Anonymous Meeting dates. The website will be updated with that information. It was noted that the expected problem gambling money from DraftKings should be received by the end of the month.

3. OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioners discussed an LBA request to formally assign payment approval of invoices. Moving forward, Commissioner Gray will be reviewing and approving invoices. Commissioners discussed the potential of changing our name to the "New Hampshire Commission for Responsible Gambling" to better distinguish us from the NHCPG. Chairman McCann has studied this process but has not yet secured help from a legislative partner; more to come.

4. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 15, 2022 from 1- 2:00 PM.

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman McCann at 1:52pm.

Maura McCann

Maura McCann, Chairman

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Gray
Commissioner
New Hampshire Council for Responsible Gambling