



OCONEE COUNTY OPIOID RESPONSE TASK FORCE

Regular Meeting Held at:

March 29th at 10AM

Council Chambers, Oconee County Administrative Offices
415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC

Members

**Aaron Zeller, MD (Chair); Scott Krein (Co-Chair); Lekesha Benson
Michael Carroll; Richie Caudill; Tim Rice; Caitlin Pope;
Alan Sayre; Jon Holland; Zac Smith**

The Oconee County Opioid Response Taskforce met on Friday, March 29th, 2024 at 10am in County Council Chambers, located at 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla SC. Members present included Aaron Zeller, Michael Carroll, Alan Sayre, Lekesha Benson, Scott Krein, Tim Rice, Brittney Martin; Grants Administrator, and Staff Liaison; Zac Smith.

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting, date, time, place of meeting and agenda were posted on the bulletin board at the County Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC, and the County Council website [www.oconeesc.com]. In addition, it was made available [upon request] to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

Minutes:

- 1. Call to Order:** Dr. Aaron Zeller called meeting to order at 10am.
- 2. Approval of Minutes:** Dr. Aaron Zeller
 - Motion made by Dr. Zeller to approve minutes at the April 19th meeting. All approved.
- 3. Discussion Items:**
 - Mr. Zac Smith reviewed the guidelines and Robert's Rules of Order for time allotment/discussion. Reminded the audience that there can be no back and forth discussion with the Taskforce unless they, the Taskforce asks for their questions.
 - Mr. Scott Krein: There has been discussion on salaries. Spoke of several agencies getting denied funding for salaries and not knowing if everything is for 100 percent opioid.

Community Support Application Review/Approval for Kingdom Over Culture

- Dr. Aaron Zeller: The request has been skimmed down slightly by getting rid of real property requests. The items that have stayed are salaries, program fees, scholarships, etc.
- Mr. Alan Sayre made motion to approve budget strategy 2 (\$42,460 for operational expenses), strategy 3 (\$14,000 scholarship programs). To decline strategies 1 and 4. Mr. Scott Krein with a second.
- Mr. Jon Holland: Has there been any concern of covering operational expenses in the past?
- Mr. Scott Krein replied with saying that Oconee County cut out operational expenses with their requests to get it to the SCORF Board.
- Ms. Lekesha Benson: Discussed the process of salaries and how grant organizations look at salaries. Mr. Alan Sayre is not opposed to giving partial funding to organizations. If the board has any recommendations, Mr. Alan Sayre would be open.
- Mr. Tim Rice asked as to why partial funding could not be put into thirds.
- Mr. Scott Krein mentioned that a third of the salaries could be done with a grand total for KOC being \$91,870.

- Mr. Alan Sayre amended motion to approve 1/3rd of salaries, in addition to the full funding of strategies 2 and 3. Grand Total: \$91,870. All approve.

Christ Central Ministries/OARS/Magnolia House:

- Mr. Scott Krein asked what literature was being used for recovery. Mr. Ashley Williams responded with explaining how the literature works with all types of recovery.
- Ms. Lekesha Benson: How many clients did OARS see their first year? Mr. Ashley Williams replied with around 70. Ms. Benson inquired on insurance and Medicaid reimbursements.
- Mr. Alan Sayre: What percentage of program will be used for other addictions such as alcoholism and other drugs. Mr. Williams replied with almost a 30 percent difference.
- Mr. Scott Krein made a motion to approve 70 percent of funding, with exception of salaries which would be at 33 percent. Second by Mr. Alan Sayre with recommendation of full funding for Opioid Awareness materials at 100 percent. That would bring grand total to \$172,924. All approve.
- Discussion on OARS and Magnolia Program.
- Mr. Scott Krein: Does OARS take people outside of Oconee County. Mr. Ashley Williams said yes, if they have a connection with Oconee County.

Tamassee DAR (Starlight Program)

- Mr. Jon Holland presented a short presentation on the history and operation of Tamassee DAR School.
- Productive enterprise, fundraising, and endowments help the program.
- Dr. Aaron Zeller asks what is the actual funding request. Mr. Jon Holland explains that it will be used for a mother and her son. It would be for her costs for care and recovery.
- Mr. Alan Sayre made motion to fully approve the DAR request pending itemized budget. Second by Dr. Aaron Zeller. In discussion, Mr. Scott Krein stated that documentation would be great, but the application is good as far as being approved.
- Mr. Mike Carroll asked if the participants from Oconee County. Mr. Jon Holland responded by saying the participants want to remain in Oconee County because they don't want to go back to where the addiction potentially took place. Discussion on how females end up in Oconee County for recovery.
- Dr. Aaron Zeller asked all in favor. All approve.

Serenity Ridge Recovery

- Victor Archenbaum presented on behalf of Serenity Ridge.
- Salary will be for the assistance director. Dr. Archenbaum is doing this free of charge.
- Mr. Scott Krein to Mr. Zac Smith; regarding the purchase of Narcan, does SCORF allow the purchase of Narcan or is it not permissible still? Mr. Smith replied that just as long as the organization becomes a community distributor, they will be able to disperse Narcan.
- Dr. Aaron Zeller stated that he would recommend an itemized budget before approval of the application. Mr. Scott Krein added that he would like to see salary, fringe, and benefits.
- Dr. Aaron Zeller made motion to approve Serenity Ridge contingent upon the revised application at the next OCORT meeting. All in favor.

PlaySafe USA

- Due to no quorum and conflict of interest, PlaySafe USA's application and presentation was postponed to another special meeting.
- Motion by Mr. Alan Sayre to call a special meeting on Tuesday, April 2nd at 12pm to discuss PlaySafe USA's application. All in favor.

- 4. Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn made by Dr. Aaron Zeller, second by Mr. Alan Sayre. All in favor, 5-0.

Assisted Listening Devices [ALD] are available to accommodate the special needs of citizens attending meetings held in Council Chambers. ALD requests should be made to the Clerk to Council at least 30 minutes prior to the meeting start time.

Oconee County Council, Committee, Board & Commission meeting schedules, agendas are posted at the Oconee County Administration Building & are available on the County Council Website.