

**MSSNY Committee on Addiction and Psychiatric Medicine  
Meeting via zoom  
Friday, May 6, 2022**

**Present**

Janine Fogarty, MD Asst.  
Commissioner  
Stephen Hermele, MD Chair  
Marvin Rabinowitz, MD Vice-Chair  
Scott Breidbart, MD  
Frank Dowling, MD  
Lynda Hohman, MD  
Nina Huberman, MD  
Celeste Johns, MD  
Hemant Kalia, MD  
Russell Kamer, MD  
Leslie Marino, MD  
Glenn Martin, MD  
Jeffrey Selzer, MD  
Norman Wetterau, MD  
Barbara Ellman, Alliance

**Excused**

Joshua Cohen, MD Commissioner  
Brian Johnson, MD

**Absent**

Gregory Bunt, MD  
Subhas Chandra, MD  
Gabrielle Shapiro, MD  
Jared Walsh, MD  
Stacey Watt, MD  
Leanna Knight, Student

**Invited Guests**

Lyla Hunt, Deputy Director of Public  
Health and Campaigns, NYS Office of  
Cannabis Management  
Phillip Rumsey

**Staff**

Troy Oeschner, Executive VP  
Morris Auster, Sr. VP and Chief  
Legislative Counsel  
Pat Clancy, Sr. VP and Managing  
Director  
Maureen Ramirez, Administrative Asst.

**1) Welcome**

**2) Approval of February 4, 2022 minutes – approved with corrections**

**3) NYS Office of Cannabis Management— Lyla Hunt, Deputy Director of Public Health and Campaigns**

Prior to Ms. Hunt joining the meeting the committee discussed what questions they'd like to ask.

- What provisions are being made for Medical and Non-Medical Cannabis?
- How will OCM be collecting data?
- Will there be a physician on the panel?
- What is being done to remedy the criminal injustices?
- What are the legal ramifications if you buy legally and share with underage individuals?
- Did you do thorough comparisons with other states that have legalized
- Is there going to be a PR campaign regarding the importance of telling your physician that you use marijuana?
- There are complications coming to light of problems from anesthesiologists. Concerning patients that use marijuana and anesthesia?
- Should the questions of use be added to the normal inquiry questions that physicians ask before a procedure?

- What will be done regarding the problems with marijuana that are not purchased through a dispensary
- Could MSSNY help with the education component?

After the presentation the committee thanks Ms. Hunt for the presentation and her time. Miss Hunt opened the floor for questions:

- The first priority should be that people understand the law. "There will be many more instances of educating the public"
- Why would we allow advertising – to encourage everyone to use cannabis? "Advertising will hopefully help transition from illicit market to the legal market. It would occur outside certain times of the day say outside 6am to 10pm"
- Will you be working with OASAS for data collection? "Yes"
- Will there be penalties for adults sharing with minors? "There will be some penalties for sharing with minors, much the same as the penalties for sharing alcohol with minors."
- How will you coordinate with other states? "We are working to coordinate with the contiguous states regarding Cannabis sales and distribution."
- Expert cops? How real is that? "Law enforcement will be trained to recognize the effects of people under the influence and handle them accordingly. Including the messaging that it is illegal to cross state lines."
- Looking forward to the DRE Program Report. How will physicians be advised of cannabis use? Anesthesiologists are seeing troublesome issues with people that use marijuana. They have seen several different reactions while being administered anesthesia. This may require additional education on this topic. "Thank you for letting us know. Studies have shown disclosure has increased once the stigma is removed."
- "Will CBD be available through the dispensary? "Human consumption of CBD is not restricted as marijuana is"
- We need to encourage grants for this research. "OCM has a research license. This will ensure that the research entities will have the opportunity to do good research"
- On the education side, there are definitely a large number of people using illicit marijuana. Some of that is laced with fentanyl. People need to be educated about that. Also, additional education will be needed regarding the dangers of vaping. Will there be programs to focus on educating kids? "The OCM will be working with the Tobacco Association. We will also be working with OASAS to get education for kids. Funding will be determined by the Advisory Board 7 funding.
- Will there be doctors included? "There will be doctors involved"

Ms. Hunt thanked the committee and left the meeting.

There was a discussion between committee members that nothing addressing how this program will be launched and presented to the public was mentioned, only help after it already is a problem. The committee suggests that it propose one or two items to discuss with the Board and get the answers that are needed.

It was discussed that Ms. Hunt should definitely be invited back to speak to the committee so that the dialog can be kept open. There was also no discussion regarding community acceptance.

**Motion to Adjourn**

**Next meeting:** October 28, 2022