

**MINUTES**  
ONTARIO COUNTY  
ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION  
**ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

March 5, 2012

<p><b>MEMBERS:</b> Samuel Casella, Canandaigua Town Supv., Chair Margaret Hilton, Hopewell Town Supv., Vice Chair Hon. Craig J. Doran, Ontario County Court Judge Hon. Frederick Reed, Ontario County Court Judge Hon. William Kocher, Ontario County Court Judge Hon. Timothy J. Buckley, Geneva City Court Judge R. Michael Tantillo, District Attorney Philip C. Povero, Ontario County Sheriff David Tillman, Ontario County Undersheriff Ginny Gumaer-Muller, Prob/ATI Supervisor Alice Haskins, Chief Corrections Officer Sharon Donovan, Probation Director Sarah Utter, Victims Assistance Coordinator William Swingley, Dr., Comm Mental Health Services John Garvey, County Administrator</p>	<p>Martin Teller, Exec. Director FLACRA Leann Lapp, Public Defender Jane Bentsen, League of Women Voters Ellen Wayne, Catholic Charities Robert Zimmerman, Defense Counsel Rep Deb Holland, Youth Court Coordinator Joan Houle, Prob Supervisor</p> <p><b>Guests:</b> Joan DiDuro-DRP; Steve Sherry-C/S; Clay Adamescu-Felony Div., Lucille Mallard-DC, Jennifer Kehoe-Public Def., Gail Colaneri-FLACRA</p>
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**Present:** Samuel Casella, Margaret Hilton, Ginny Gumaer-Muller, Jane Bentsen, Robert Zimmerman, Alice Haskins, Hon. Fred Reed, Hon. Tim Buckley, Martin Teller, Deb Holland, and Sharon Donovan.

**Necessarily Absent:** Hon. William Kocher, Hon. Craig Doran, R. Michael Tantillo, Philip Povero, David Tillman, Sarah Utter, John Garvey, Joan Houle, William Swingley, Ellen Wayne, and Leann Lapp.

**Call To Order:** Supervisor Casella called the meeting to order at 12:34 p.m.

**Review And Approve Minutes:** Supervisor Casella called for the approval of the December 5, 2011 minutes. Motion to approve made by Sharon Donovan and seconded by Alice Haskins, motion carried. Supv. Casella introduced Margaret "Peg" Hilton as the new ATI Vice Chair. Ms. Hilton is the newly elected Supervisor of the Town of Hopewell, formerly holding the position of Hopewell Town Justice for 17 years. Welcome!

Don Ambrose, having resigned the Community Representative position on the Board, may be replaced by Corinne Janssen, who is a successful Drug Court graduate. Judge Reed said she Ms. Janssen has since volunteered with DC and is a great help with the clients. Ms. Janssen has yet to formally accept Board membership. **\*\*Update:** Ms. Jansen will not be filling this vacancy and another representative is being sought.

**Report of ATI Programs:**

**DRP – Joan Diduro:** Currently there are 21 participants with 2 referrals pending. After the first 20 days, if the participants reach the goal of finding employment, they are then allowed to call in daily. Judge Reed asked about alcohol and drug screenings to which Ms. Diduro explained clients are breathalyzed first thing each morning. If the client is on Probation, the PO also conducts screenings of their clients. The Ready, Set Work Program is getting good reviews as the clients will practice role playing job interviews, especially handling questions concerning criminal history. Some employers will hire felons once they are interviewed face to face.

**PTR – Ginny Gumaer-Muller for Susan Young:** 60 active PTR cases with 2 pending violations. Clients from Rochester and Buffalo report by phone only due to transportation issues. Ms. Young is conducting most interviews via Tele-visit, which is a time saver. Public Defenders are now also utilizing Tele-visit, which is similar to Skype.

**Community Service – Steve Sherry:** Mr. Sherry handed out the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Community Service Report to Board members. During the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, a total of 110 clients were placed in the Community Service Program bringing the yearly total to 455 placements for 2011. The 4<sup>th</sup> quarter shows 97 completing the program bringing the yearly total to 429 successful completers. Seven clients were hired by their worksites which included, Vienna Gardens, Volunteers of American, E-Commerce and ABVI.

**Felony Diversion Program – Clay Adamescu:** Mr. Adamescu reports there are 19 participants currently in the Probation Eligible Diversion (PED) program. This intensive supervision program includes 2 in-office visits per week, with one being in group held every Monday night; 1 home visit per month; and ongoing substance and mental health treatment. The 4<sup>th</sup> quarter showed 3 completers, 1 violation and 2 new participants.

**Drug Court – Lucile Mallard for Betsey Lee:** Ms. Mallard reports there are 30 open cases in Misdemeanor Drug Court, with 17 being admitted on a VOP. In Felony Drug Court there are 32 open cases with 27 admitted on a VOP. On February 24, 2012, a graduation was held for 7 participants. Drug court gives the offender a second chance. Formal sentencing comes after graduation. Keeping offenders out of prison lets them work to get their restitution paid off. Judge Buckley asked if there was ever a study done to follow post graduates of Drug Court. Ms. Mallard reported a study was done 4 years ago showing less recidivism with offenders graduating from Drug Court. Ms. Gumaer-Muller said recovery is a process of overall moving forward, which may include some setbacks. Ms. Donovan said OPCA has tracked data going back many years to show that Drug Court makes a difference with improving recidivism. Further discussion was held particular to 16, 17 and 18 year olds. They need diversion programs as their brains are still developing and they, by nature, will make poor choices but don't necessarily deserve to have a permanent criminal record.

**Youth Court Update – Deb Holland:** Ms. Holland said that Youth Court has been very busy this year taking on more serious cases such as harassments, Unlawful Possession of Marijuana and underage alcohol use; 11 cases have been heard to date this year and should all close successfully. About ½ of the cases have parental support. Presently they use South Bristol Town Court with hopes of adding another site. In talking with Canandaigua Middle School, Ms. Holland hopes to see more referrals going to Youth Ct. vs. City Ct. as Youth Ct would handle these cases with more than just a fine. Ms. Holland said the Youth Ct. volunteers have been great this year, taking their time with each client. Youth Ct. volunteers go through 20 hours of training by ADA's, Judges, and Resource Officers. They also learn about public speaking. This year a community garden will be designated as a community service site and will be utilized by Day Reporting Program, Community Service Program and Youth Ct.

**Jail Population Review & Discussion – Alice Haskins:** The overall jail population is down. Ms. Haskins reports that offenders with mental health issues continue to be a big concern for the jail. Often their high bail is keeping them in jail for an extended amount of time, with 1 offender showing 540+ days and 3 others incarcerated for 180+ days. These clients, who can be psychotic and/or violent, can be problematic for staff due to lack of training for Correction Officers in this area. Multiple injuries have been sustained to CO's due to interactions with these offenders. Ms. Haskins has tried to find local training to no avail. Ms. Kehoe said their office is working on getting mental health treatment in place for these offenders. The VA now has Tele-visit linked with the jail. As an aside, Ms. Haskins noted that the "Tent City" in Arizona, which uses harsh treatment on their inmates, has a 67% recidivism rate. This is a much higher rate than Probation and ATI programs. Ms. Haskins is working with Geneva City Schools to get kids back in school. Ms. Haskins quoted from a restorative justice article, "jail is an alternative if you don't come back".

**FLACRA Enhanced Jail Services Report – Contract Services Budget Cuts, Evaluations & Limitations - Marty Teller:** Jail and ATI funding has been reduced by a \$10,000 budget cut. Transition (women) groups will be cut back to three sessions per month. Mom and Dad groups were begun prior to cut, but will now have to be discontinued. There has been a decrease in the number of individual sessions, but evaluation requests have increased. Darlene Rayburn and Gordon Hill are the jail counselors. Cadence Square has secured funding and expects to break ground this July. This agency will provide treatment for Veterans, housing, etc.

**FLACRA  
Ontario County Jail Treatment Program Statistics**

**YTD**

# Males	738
# Females	573
ATI Clients	473
# Groups	493
# Individ.	534
# Evals.	50

**2012 Meeting Schedule Reminder:** June 4, September 10 & December 3

**Roundtable:** Ms. Gumaer-Muller will contact the Judges regarding a breakfast meeting in May. Tentatively, included on the schedule will be an Interlock Ignition overview and a presentation by Terri Whitt.

Oath of Office cards are being mailed and should be returned immediately to Karen DeMay at the Board of Supervisors.

Supv. Casella said having FLACRA in the jail is a much needed service especially since there is a rise in the female population with drug problems. Discussion was held regarding K2/Spice, etc. now being the popular drug of choice, particularly in the younger population. It is hard to keep up testing for this drug as the chemical in this drug keeps changing. K2 effects can include aggressive and unpredictable behavior, particular with females. Ms. Mallard said a study for Emergency Room treatment regarding this drug showed 3400 visits in 2010 and doubled to 7900 visits in 2011. On the other extreme, there is more prescription drug abuse with the older population.

Next meeting: Monday, June 4 @12:30 pm, Human Svcs. Bldg., 3010 County Complex Dr., conf. rm 8.

Motion made to adjourn the meeting at 1:40 p.m.

Submitted by,

Colleen Brown  
Office Specialist – Probation