Gabbie McConkey opened the meeting with an introduction and welcomed visitors.

The May minutes were reviewed.

* Motion made by: Dr. Levin
* 2nd: T. Harrill
* All in favor, motion carried.

Gabbie reported the suggested changes have been made to the MOU according to the requests of attendees at the May meeting.

* Motion made by: Gail
* 2nd: T. Harrill
* All in favor, motion carried.

Code of Ethics for council attendees was included in the meeting packet and was discussed among the group.

* It is understood the Roberts Rules of Orders will be used as a guiding template for business and meeting matters.
* To avoid having to develop and implement bylaws/policies/procedures/charter/etc. it has been encouraged that our group remain titled as a council *not* an ad-hoc committee.

The State of TN has delayed their application process; September is the anticipated date for the application process to be live .

* Gabbie announced the State meeting is July 27 at 6pm. Location TBD.
* Attendees were empowered to “think big” when it comes to the state application. Collaboration will be favored.

The State is also working on a transparency policy that will trickle down, as well as reporting requirements and standards.

* A copy of the document “Opioid Abatement Trust Semi-Annual Report” was included in the meeting packet and will reveal how counties are utilizing funds.

A financial report was provided by Gail and shared with the group.

* Only the Opioid Abatement Funds will be reflected on this/future financial reports.

The county fund application process was tabled until this Fall, so as to ensure the State’s application is open and available for use as a template for consistency.

* Dr. Levin asked about time sensitive needs and the opportunity to ask for funds prior to the actual county funds being made available by application.
* Roma suggested a formal letter be submitted by agencies that have needs to be met prior to the Fall or future years.
* Gabbie mentioned the concern about fairness and transparency as well as consistency with the application process.
* Teresa stated the importance of ensuring finances are organized before distributions begin.

Community Needs Assessments were brought to the floor for discussion.

* Chota has provided a copy, included in the meeting packet, of their upcoming survey questions.
  + It is permissible for questions to be added to the survey. Please reach out to Gabbie soon if you’d like to see specific questions added to the Chota survey.
* T .Harill reported The HD plans to wait until 2024 to implement their survey. (Loudon County has completed their survey as of last week. One change was the added question about “how life has changed since COVID”. The #1 priority was affordable housing. Interestingly, the top 5 from previous surveys were found at the bottom of the results this time.
* SHA has not announced when they plan to implement theirs. About 475 surveys were collected.)

Open Discussion:

* Gary asked about the cities that are represented in the meeting group.
* Gabbie mentioned the need to publicize council intentions in a press release. A suggested release was provided in the meeting packet and discussed among present members.
* The minutes from council meetings are linked on the PWC website.
* Dr. Levin asked about providing information about the council at the Back to School Bash. Madisonville typically hosts a night out event following, which would be better for info distribution.
* Save the Date for local Town Hall meeting: September \_\_\_? (TBD by August meeting.)
  + Options for location named included the court room at the old court house, Sequoyah High School, or possible in the training room at the Justice Center.
  + It was suggested by Brent Hickey that multiple town hall meetings are held in various cities so as to promote inclusiveness.
  + Control and monitoring of town hall topics of discussion and involvement of the general public were discussed.
  + Timeline of meetings were talked about, the involvement of local leaders within each city was suggested for the distribution of workload and for to promote community-wide involvement.
  + The meeting should be streamed and/or recorded for liability and reference. LeAnne said she believes the school’s tech department should be able to help with this.
* Gary requested clarification in all public statements that are made on behalf of the council as to who we are and what our purpose is.
  + The first two sentences on the suggested press release provided in the meeting packet was suggested as a response to the general public as to who we are: “*Community partners and stakeholders have come together to create the Monroe County Opioid Advisory Council (MCOAC) to have a comprehensive, community-based group of experts in their field, for the oversight and delivery of the opioid settlement funds coming into our county.”*

Gabbie thanked everyone for their presence.

**The next meeting will be held August 15 @ 9AM in the JP Kennedy room.**

*(Minutes recorded & submitted by H. Rhymes)*