

PARTNERS IN PREVENTION

Town of Somers

WESTCHESTER COUNTY, N.Y.

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KATHY CUCCHIARELLA
CHAIRMAN

SOMERS TOWN HOUSE
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SOMERS, NY 10589



MEETING MINUTES
October 23, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. The following members were in attendance: Bob Berman, Carol Cirienco, Kathy Cucchiarella, Christine MacDonald, and Pat Otis.

Guest Partners present included: Somers High School Assistance Counselor Aisling Baynes, Somers PTA Council Co-President and Somers High School PTA Co-President Karen Collura, Somers Police Chief Mike Driscoll, Somers Middle School Principal Jeff Getman, and Somers Education Foundation member Glenn Hintze.

Minutes – A motion was made by Mrs. MacDonald to approve the minutes of the September 25, 2018 meeting as submitted. Mr. Berman seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Budget Expenditures – Mrs. Schirmer reported that since the last meeting, an ad has been taken out in the Somers High School 2019 Yearbook.

OLD BUSINESS:

Somers High School Open House Update – Mrs. Cirienco and Mrs. Cucchiarella attended the Somers High School Open House on September 26th. Unfortunately, they did not get much foot traffic to the Partner's informational table, but did speak with two parents that had some real concerns that they were able to assist with.

Marketing Materials Purchase Update – Tom Newman, owner of T3 Logowear in Somers Commons and Mrs. Cucchiarella met. He is drawing up some different design options for two roll up banners that are 65" high by 33" wide, which will include the logo and a consolidated version of the Partner's mission on the bottom. 2-ounce hand sanitizers will also be purchased and Mrs. Cucchiarella shared what the front of them will look like. Other products to be considered were discussed and all agreed to buy pens and magnets. The magnets will be 3 by 5, and will replicate what the Partner's

informational card says. Some minor changes were made to the verbiage.

Narcan Training Medication Expiration Update – In 2016, Mrs. Cucchiarella participated in a Narcan Training session and the medication she received is now expired. She contacted Westchester County's Department of Health Patrick Quinn about getting new medication. He said that the County is not issuing any replacement medication and that individuals would have to pay for the replacement of Narcan. Unfortunately, this entire process might deter people from taking this class. Police Chief Driscoll was surprised to hear this and followed up with Mr. Quinn who told him that Narcan will be provided to those with no insurance, and those with insurance can get it at the pharmacy. Since that conflicts with what Mrs. Cucchiarella was told, Chief Driscoll will check again.

Town TV Channel Character Generator Advertising Update – Currently the Partners logo is on the Town TV channel's character generator. Mrs. Young-Wright suggested that the Northern Westchester Hospital partner with the Partners in Prevention. She will ask their marketing department to create a static graphic on vaping that they would like to put on the Town TV Channel Character Generator. In doing so, she needed to know what the requirements and parameters are, which Mrs. Schirmer supplied her with.

Drug Free Communities (DFC) Grant #1H79SP080725-01 Update – The Steering Committee (Mark Bayer, Aisling Baynes, Dr. Raymond Blanch, Ken Crowley, Kathy Cucchiarella, Jeff Getman, Kevin Guidotti, and Phil Kavanaugh) continues to meet on a regular basis to discuss details for the DFC Grant awarded. In addition, Mrs. Cucchiarella is in the process of attending weekly webinars and will continue to do so until just before Thanksgiving. As part of the grant application, community sector representatives had to be provided. Moving forward they will be invited to attend the Partner's monthly meetings.

Heritage Hills Prescription Drug Take Back Day Update – Heritage Hills sponsored a prescription drug take back day on October 3rd. Police Chief Driscoll reported that 60 pounds of pills were collected. He also noted that 60% of the prescription pills deposited in the box at the Police Station come from Heritage Hills.

NEW BUSINESS:

Narcan Training – Police Chief Driscoll has scheduled a Narcan Training offered by the County at the Somers Library on December 4th at 6:00 p.m. They will generate a flyer and take registration.

Blackout Wednesday – Last year a flyer on Blackout Wednesday (the night before Thanksgiving) was created by the Partners and email blasted by the Town. All agreed that it should be done again this year. Mrs. Cucchiarella will get the information to Mrs. Schirmer who will make the arrangements with the Supervisor's office to have it sent out again this year. It will also be sent to The Somers Record, posted on the Somers

Education Foundation website, and emailed out by the Somers High and Middle School Principals, as well as their PTA's.

Message Board by State Trooper's Barracks – Mrs. Schirmer continues to work with employee Marty Stole who is changing the message on the Board that is by the State Trooper's Barracks quarterly. His assistance has been a big help for the Partners.

USA Today Article – Mrs. Cucchiarella shared an article she read in USA Today entitled "What is CBD?" It is a cannabis compound that has significant medical benefits.

November Meeting Guest – Judy Mezey Assistant Director for Community Based Programs for Student Assistance Services will join us next month to speak about the DFC Grant: Environmental Strategies and Strategic Prevention Framework.

Drug Crisis in Our Backyard – Drug Crisis in Our Backyard is hosting a program "Addressing the Drug Crisis – A Panel Discussion", tomorrow night from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. in the Yorktown Community Center.

Red Ribbon Week – Ms. Baynes spoke about the activities they had planned at the High School for Red Ribbon Week.

Student Representation on the Partners in Prevention – Police Chief Driscoll thinks it would be great if there could be some student representation on the Partners in Prevention. All agreed, however, Ms. Baynes is having difficulty getting students to assist her as needed, so she is doubtful that anyone will volunteer to attend the Partner's meetings, but will continue trying.

Ted Talks – Health: The Opioid Crisis – The Somers Library is hosting a Ted Talks program entitled "Health: The Opioid Crisis" on November 2nd from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. Sign-up is required.

Film – Resilience: The Biology of Stress & The Science of Hope – The Partners received a flyer about a screening of *Resilience: The Biology of Stress & The Science of Hope* at the John C. Hart Memorial Library on October 17th and 23rd. Ms. Baynes saw it about two months ago and thought it would be a good offering for the Partners. Mrs. Schirmer will reach out to see what the attendance was. This item will be placed on the agenda of the November meeting for further discussion.

Westchester Coalition for Drug and Alcohol Free Youth Meeting – Moving forward Mrs. Cucchiarella will update the Committee about the monthly Westchester Coalition for Drug and Alcohol Free Youth meetings she attends. The update of the last meeting is as follows:

On March 14, 2019 an "Under the Influence" conference will be held at SUNY Purchase. Mrs. Cucchiarella will register to participate.

Patty Warble, Student Assistance Services' Family Resource Coordinator, and author of Parenting for Prevention, a monthly newsletter, that copies are shared with school Superintendents, Principals, Nurses and PTA's, which they in return can share with the parents.

Ms. Warble is working on plans to have Germaine Galloway, also known as the Tall Cop to present in the area in January. Mr. Bayer and Ms. Baynes attended his presentation last year at Rye High School. It was targeted to the parents and was well attended. If arrangements are able to be made to have him in Somers, perhaps neighboring school parents can be invited to attend as well.

Pat Tomassi, the Coalition's Director spoke about training they will be doing for pediatricians, as well as providing information about vaping.

There was a listening session in New Rochelle on October 17, 2018 about the legalization of marijuana.

Mrs. Cucchiarella also shared what some of the other coalitions are doing: programs involving Boy Scouts; having coalition's stickers placed on food items sold at concession stands during rivalry football games and scheduling those games during the day, rather than at night; and using art to develop a message with a theme; freshman year bathroom talks.

Lauren Johnson of SUNY Purchase had a lot of good ideas to share. Mrs. Cucchiarella will put her in touch with Ms. Baynes.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. The Partners will meet again on November 27th at 7:00 p.m. in the Somers Town House Meeting Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Schirmer, Secretary
Somers Partners in Prevention

cc: Partners in Prevention
Town Board
Town Clerk