

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
November 27, 2018**

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

Guest Partners present included: Somers High School Assistance Counselor Aisling Baynes, Somers Police Officer David Burpee, Somers Middle School Principal Jeff Getman, Somers Education Foundation President Glenn Hintze, and resident Keeva Young-Wright.

Drug Free Communities Grant #1H79SP080725-01 Community Sector Representatives included: Dr. Bridgham and Drug Crisis in Our Backyard's co-founder Carol Christiansen.

Judy Mezey, Director of Community Based Programs for Student Assistant Services was also present.

Minutes – A motion was made by Mr. Berman to approve the minutes of the October 23, 2018 meeting as submitted. Mrs. Otis seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Budget Expenditures – Mrs. Schirmer reported that since the last meeting, packs of inspirational messaged tissues to be used as give-a-ways at events and a 6-foot table to be used for outreach have been purchased.

OLD BUSINESS:

Marketing Materials Purchase Update – Mrs. Cucchiarella has been working with Tom Newman, owner of T3 Logowear in Somers Commons with regard to ordering traveling roll up banners, hand sanitizers and pens. Mrs. MacDonald is taking charge of having 3" by 5" magnets made which will replicate what the Partner's informational card says. Some minor changes will be made to the verbiage.

Narcan Training Update – Somers Police Officer David Burpee announced that there will be a Narcan Training offered by the Westchester County Department of Health on December 4th at 6:00 p.m. in the Somers Library. As of yesterday, 11 people were signed up. An email blast was sent out earlier today by the Town. Anyone at risk or those that live/work with someone at risk are encouraged to attend. They no longer give out Narcan kits, but insurance companies will pay for them and reimburse the drug store for the co-pay. The County will have some kits for those without insurance. If someone has one that has expired, a new one can be purchased at a drug store without a prescription. The kits now include a pre-filled vial with an atomizer which is much easier to use. Mrs. Cucchiarella would like to have the Partners in Prevention informational table set up at the training.

Officer Burpee also shared a handout on marijuana that Police Chief Driscoll gave him.

Film – Resilience: The Biology of Stress & The Science of Hope – A screening of *Resilience: The Biology of Stress & The Science of Hope* took place at the John C. Hart Memorial Library in October. The goal of the Resilience Coalition is to show the film in as many of the libraries in Westchester as possible. Mrs. Schirmer will make arrangements for the Partners to partner with the Somers Library to show this film after the new year.

Town TV Channel Character Generator Advertising Update – Mrs. Young-Wright coordinated a partnership between the Partners and Northern Westchester Hospital to create a static graphic on vaping that has been put on the Town TV Channel Character Generator. It is important to get feedback from the audience with regard to sending a message via this venue.

NEW BUSINESS:

Vaping – Since vaping is becoming such an issue, Mrs. Young-Wright would like to see the Partners keep this topic in the forefront. Mrs. Cucchiarella said it will be a key focus of the grant and detectors have been installed in some of the Somers High School bathrooms. Tomorrow Ms. Baynes is attending the Student Assistance Services luncheon with three of the High School students. This is a great networking opportunity and vaping, as well as recruitment will be discussed. In addition, she and Mrs. Cucchiarella will be meeting with some students about creating a public service announcement about vaping. It would be ideal to eventually show it at a local movie theatre. A plan is in place to hold a show and tell for the parents to better educate them about vaping. Ms. Baynes reported that a bulletin board about vaping was created in the High School and in less than 2 weeks it was completely destroyed. Mr. Getman said they are beginning to work with the younger students at his school regarding this topic and it was suggested that it be geared to 5th graders at the Intermediate School. Dr. Bridgman would like to see zero tolerance exhibited. Perhaps the schools should have roving monitors and severe punishments. Mr. Getman said both the Middle and High Schools have roving monitors and if caught, they do get suspended, as well as

lose privileges. A discussion about vaping will take place at the Board of Education meeting this evening. It would be very helpful if Dr. Bridgham could provide educational materials in his office concerning the effects of vaping on ones' teeth. Both Ms. Baynes and Mrs. Cucchiarella will be sitting in on programs presented by Drs. Stephen Dewey and Kevin Sabet to see if they might be worth exploring for Somers.

Drug Free Communities Grant #1H79SP080725-01 – Judy Mezey, Director of Community Based Programs for Student Assistant Services addressed the group with regard to the Drug Free Communities Grant #1H79SP080725-01. She explained that the grant is simply about coming up with ways to change the environment so fewer kids use alcohol and drugs. Ms. Mezey reviewed the framework and guidelines of the grant with the Partners. Mrs. Cucchiarella thanked Ms. Mezey for all her help with the grant application process.

Vaping Marijuana – Ms. Baynes reminded everyone that there have to be discussions about not just nicotine being vaped, but also marijuana.

Drug Free Communities Grant #1H79SP080725-01 Update – As required for the grant, Mrs. Cucchiarella is working on bylaws which the Partners will have an opportunity to review.

Westchester Coalition for Drug and Alcohol Free Youth Meeting

The last meeting was on November 1st and Mrs. Cucchiarella announced the following:

Ms. Mezey spoke about CBD oil, vaping and THC.

The SADD luncheon will be held tomorrow.

There will be a “When the Holidays Aren’t so Happy” conference on December 11th which Ms. Baynes and Mrs. Cucchiarella will attend.

Mrs. Cucchiarella is registered for the “Under the Influence” conference at SUNY Purchase.

Patty Warble was honored at the Student Assistance Services Tribute Dinner.

Arrangements are in the process of bringing Tall Cop Jermaine Galloway to the area in March or August.

A roundtable discussion took place about current trends, which is now vaping.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m. The Partners will meet next on January 22nd 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