

PARTNERS IN PREVENTION

Town of Somers

WESTCHESTER COUNTY, N.Y.

Telephone  
(914) 277-5582

KATHY CUCCHIARELLA  
CHAIRMAN

SOMERS TOWN HOUSE  
335 ROUTE 202  
SOMERS, NY 10589



**MEETING MINUTES**  
**January 22, 2019**

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

Guest Partners present included: Somers High School Principal Mark Bayer, Somers High School Assistance Counselor Aisling Baynes, Somers Police Chief Mike Driscoll, and Somers Education Foundation Vice President Vicki Durso.

Cove Care Center's Family Support Navigator Nilda Nieves and Lauren Savino, Prevention Educator for the Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Council of Orange County were also present.

Bob Berman and Carol Cirienco were absent.

**Minutes** – A motion was made by Mrs. MacDonald to approve the minutes of the November 27, 2018 meeting as submitted. Mrs. Otis seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**Budget Expenditures** – Since the last meeting, storage bins, labels and lifesavers to be used as give-a-ways were purchased.

Cove Care Center's Family Support Navigator Nilda Nieves was introduced. She spoke about her organization that services Northern Westchester and Putnam. Ms. Nieves is the representative for Somers and explained how she helps those in need with services that are free of charge, as well as confidential. Literature was shared.

Lauren Savino, Prevention Educator for the Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Council of Orange County was introduced. She spoke about the resource center and her role there. Flyers were distributed regarding, The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Mid-Hudson Substance Abuse Prevention Conference on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Suffern; a Coffee and Collaboration on March 26<sup>th</sup> at the Putnam Country Golf Course; and the Controlled

Party Dispersal Training on February 20<sup>th</sup> at the Orange County Emergency Services.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Narcan Training Update** – On December 4<sup>th</sup> there was a Narcan Training offered by the Westchester County Department of Health at 6:00 p.m. in the Somers Library. It was very successful with a total attendance of 25. It is the goal to offer these trainings twice yearly in Somers.

**Underage Alcohol and Tobacco Compliance Check** – The State Police conducted an Underage Alcohol and Tobacco Compliance Check at four locations in Somers and each business was in compliance.

**Film – Resilience: The Biology of Stress & The Science of Hope Update** – Arrangements have been made to offer a screening of *Resilience: The Biology of Stress & The Science of Hope* in cooperation with the Somers Library on Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in their Program Room. It will be followed by questions and answers.

**Magnets Update** – Mrs. MacDonald will go to T3 Logowear in the Somers Commons on Friday with regard to having 3” by 5” magnets made which will replicate what the Partner’s informational card says.

**MedReturn Update** – Police Chief Driscoll reported that last week 40 pounds of pills from the MedReturn were destroyed at the County facility in Valhalla.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**5<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Forum** – Mrs. Cucchiarella is in the process of trying to secure Dr. Kevin Sabet to present about Recreational Marijuana at the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Forum in the Somers Middle School Library at 7:00 p.m. It is also the hope to partner with some other groups for this presentation.

**TED Talk – Addiction: Countering the Opioid Crisis** – There will be a TED Talk at the Somers Library on February 7<sup>th</sup>, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. entitled “Addiction: Countering the Opioid Crisis”. Mrs. Schirmer will send the registration link to everyone.

**Save a Life 2019** – The Alliance for Safe Kids, Inc. will host Save a Life 2019 on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. in the Yorktown High School.

### **Westchester Coalition for Drug and Alcohol Free Youth Meeting**

The last meeting was on January 10<sup>th</sup> and Mrs. Cucchiarella announced the following:

An alcohol and vape community scan was done by the Youth Employment Council for Change in conjunction with Westchester County and Student Assistance Services in three different locations – Mamaroneck, Mt. Kisco, White Plains. The results are available on-line. Mrs. Cucchiarella thought perhaps it would be a good idea to do the

same in Somers as the Town Board recently passed a local law banning vape shops as well as the sale of electronic nicotine delivery systems in Somers.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Youth Summit will be held on March 19<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Baynes hopes to bring a handful of Somers High School students to the event.

A discussion ensued about the marijuana policy and criminal justice reform, as well as Vape public service announcements. Ms. Baynes plans to engage some Somers High School students in this endeavor.

The Westchester Coalition will not meet in February as the annual conference will be held in Washington D.C., which Mrs. Cucchiarella will be participating in.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m. The Partners will meet next on February 26<sup>th</sup> 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