

PARTNERS IN PREVENTION

Town of Somers

WESTCHESTER COUNTY, N.Y.

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KATHY CUCCHIARELLA
CHAIRMAN

SOMERS TOWN HOUSE
335 ROUTE 202
SOMERS, NY 10589



MEETING MINUTES
May 28, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. The following members were in attendance: Carol Cirioco, Kathy Cucchiarella, and Christine MacDonald.

Bob Berman and Pat Otis were absent.

Guests present included: Somers Town Councilman Anthony Cirioco, Somers Police Chief Mike Driscoll, and Somers High School Assistance Counselor Nicole Tarr.

Town Judges and also residents Mike McDermott and Denis Timone were also present.

Minutes – A motion was made by Mrs. Cucchiarella to approve the minutes of the February 26, 2019 meeting as submitted. Mrs. MacDonald seconded the motion. All were in favor.

A meeting was not held in March as there was not a quorum and the Community Forum took the place of the April meeting.

Budget Expenditures – \$500.00 was spent on Kevin Sabet, the speaker for the Community Forum, as well as the \$1,000.00 donated to the Partners by Rick and Sue DiNardo.

OLD BUSINESS:

Somers Central School District Board of Education Meeting – Mrs. Cucchiarella and Judy Mezey were present at the March 5th Board of Education meeting to speak about the Partners in Prevention, and the grant. Their presentation included a vape show.

Somers Youth Sports Organization – On March 6th, Mrs. Cucchiarella spoke to the Board of the Somers Youth Sports Organization about the Partners in Prevention.

About 30 to 40 coaches were in attendance, many of which have students in the Intermediate and Middle Schools.

5th Annual Community Forum – Dr. Kevin Sabet spoke about health, science and socialization issues pertaining to the legalization of recreational marijuana at the 5th Annual Community Forum in the Somers Middle School Library at 7:00 p.m. 57 people attended and there was very positive feedback. The Forum was televised and has been posted on the Town website.

NEW BUSINESS:

Public Forum on the Legalization of Marijuana – Mrs. Cucchiarella and Phil Kavanagh, Director of School Counseling and Student Support at Somers High School attended a Public Forum on the Legalization of Marijuana hosted by Senator Harckham at Mahopac High School on March 8th.

50th Anniversary Celebration Ideas – This year marks the 50th Anniversary of the Partners. A suggestion was to create Partner goodie bags that can be given out to parents at back to school night in the fall, and also distributed at the Partners informational table at Celebrate Somers on September 7th.

CADCA Training – Next week, Mrs. Cucchiarella will attend CADCA Training as required by the grant. Next year she will be able to bring students from the High School who will be required to build and bring an exhibit with them.

Police Chief Driscoll's Report – Police Chief Driscoll reported that there have been two recent domestic violence arrests in Town and more often than not, the underlying issue is drugs and/or alcohol. He has reached out for assistance from Drug Crisis in Our Backyard and they have been very helpful.

Hidden in Plain Sight – On May 1st, Mrs. Cucchiarella and Judy Mezey presented the Hidden in Plain Sight program to 13 parents at the Somers Middle School Library.

Tour of Teen Hang Out Spots – Mrs. Cucchiarella and Ms. Tarr recently toured the local teen hang out spots with Student Resource Officer Matt Hickey, which Mrs. Cucchiarella would like to map and conduct a mapping activity with the police as well as the EMT's.

Life of an Athlete Human Performance – Earlier today 6 students of the High School and 3 staff left for Nebraska to attend the Life of an Athlete Human Performance conference. Mrs. Cucchiarella met with them last Monday to brief them on the function of the Somers Partners in Prevention. She also hopes that at least one of these students will agree to join the Partners and attend the monthly meetings.

Community Service – Judge McDermott would like to refer community service projects to the Partners in Prevention. All agreed that would be a great idea.

Ms. Tarr's Report – Ms. Tarr reported that the week before the prom Mark Sterner will give a presentation. A wrecked car will be parked on the front lawn of the school and the DWI simulator will be available to the students to try. In addition, she created a wallet sized laminated card that will include the Partners in Prevention logo and other important information. They will be distributed during the Mark Sterner program.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m. and followed by the screening of *Resilience: The Biology of Stress & The Science of Hope*. The Partners will meet next on June 25th at 7:00 p.m. in the Recreation Center in Van Tassell Park.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Schirmer, Secretary
Somers Partners in Prevention

cc: Partners in Prevention
Town Board
Town Clerk