

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

October 27, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. The following members were in attendance: Greg Caron, Kathy Cucchiarella, Christine MacDonald and Keeva Young-Wright.

Carol Cirieco, Sandra Elezaj, Lauren McDonald-Carway and Patty Otis were absent.

Guest Partners present included: Somers High School Principal Mark Bayer, Somers High School Student Assistant Counselor Tim Pellegrin, Resident Vinny D'Agnese and Somers Middle School Principal Jeff Getman.

Guest Maria Simonetti, Northern Westchester Hospital's Director of Community Health Education and Outreach was also in attendance.

**Discussion** – Mrs. Young-Wright thought it might be a good idea to have her colleague Mrs. Simonetti meet with the Partners and share in a discussion as to what the group might do to increase awareness. A brief history was given and the following thoughts expressed: the mission statement should be no more than 3 or 4 sentences and must clearly indicate the reason why the group meets monthly, as well as what needs to be communicated to the community – use words like support, collaborate, conduit, not hope; the fact that the Partners are connected with student assistance services is definitely a plus; both the students and their parents have to be educated, i.e. hosting laws; send a letter (via the website, email blasts, an article in the local newspaper) to the community letting them know that the group has been revamped, this is who we are and what we do and are ready to assist in any way we can – conduct a five question survey to see what they need from the group; set attainable goals; when doing outreach have give-a-ways and engage in an activity, i.e. drunken goggles; and have some youth serve on the Partners. All were grateful for Mrs. Simonetti's time and agreed to come prepared to the November meeting to create a letter and survey.

**Minutes** – A motion was made by Mrs. Cucchiarella and seconded by Mrs. Young-Wright to approve the minutes of the September 29, 2015 meeting as submitted. All

were in favor.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Partnering With Somers Leos** – Mrs. Cucchiarella, Mr. D’Agnese and Mrs. MacDonald attended the Somers Leos meeting on September 30 and made a presentation about the Partners. They gave the Partners a donation of \$250, which can be used as necessary. Arrangements have been made to have that money put aside in a separate account. The Leos are selling coupon books for the Lions Club. They will be donating a percentage of the total sales to the Partners as well.

**Somers High School Open House** – Mrs. Cirienco manned the Partner’s table at the Somers High School Open House on October 1. There was some interest in the information provided. A parent also expressed an interest in partnering. Mrs. Cirienco will follow up.

**Miscellaneous Updates** – The Partners in Prevention Fact Sheet handout has been updated, as has the website page and the logo added. To date the full amount requested in the 2016 budget remains. Scout Will Walsh will attend the meeting next month to present his Eagle Scout project to “spruce up” the Partners display sign.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Resignation** – Member Michele Henning has resigned from the Partners in Prevention.

**Northeast Westchester Rotary Club** – Drug Crisis in Our Backyard’s Carol Christiansen and Steve Salomone spoke at the Northeast Westchester Rotary Club on October 22. Both Mr. Bayer and Mrs. Cucchiarella attended.

**Somers High School Volunteer Fair** – On behalf of the Partners, Mr. D’Agnese will attend the Somers High School Volunteer Fair on October 29. Information will be distributed and hopefully some students will be interested in helping the group.

**2016 Somers High School Yearbook** – The Partners will once again take out a ½ page ad in next year’s Somers High School yearbook. Mrs. MacDonald will take care of this and the fee remains at \$180.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m. The Partners will meet again on November 10, 2015 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