

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

May 31, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:20 p.m. The following members were in attendance: Carol Cirieco, Kathy Cucchiarella, Vinny D'Agnese, Sandra Elezaj, Christine MacDonald, and Patty Otis. Greg Caron and Keeva Young-Wright were absent.

Guest Partners present included: Somers Town Councilman Anthony Cirieco, Somers Police Chief Michael Driscoll, Somers High Principal Mark Bayer and Somers Education Foundation representative Christine Mahoney.

Resignation – It is with regret that the Chairman announced the resignation of member Lauren McDonald-Carway. Mrs. McDonald-Carway will continue to share information that she feels will benefit the Partners.

Minutes – A motion was made by Mrs. Otis and seconded by Mrs. Elezaj to approve the minutes of the March 28, 2016 meeting as submitted. All were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS:

Chris Herren Program Update – The Somers Partners in Prevention contributed \$500 and partnered with SHS PTSA, SHS, Somers PTA Council, East Coast Panthers, and NY Extreme Hoops to bring a program to Somers presented by Chris Herren on April 5. The program was a huge success with 1,100 high school and 600 middle school students attending during the day, as well as between 400 and 500 residents from the community in the evening.

2nd Annual Community Coffee and Conversation Update – The 2nd Annual Community Coffee and Conversation was held on April 26 at 7:00 p.m. in the Somers Middle School Library. Although there were fewer in attendance this year, some new folks attended. Jim Chisholm, Business Development Manager for Senator Terrence Murphy and Stephen Salomone, co-founder of Drug Crisis in Our Backyard were the guest speakers. Ways in which to partner with those groups who are interested have to

be determined. Consideration will be given to inviting the entire community to the 3rd Annual event. Suggestions and ideas for next year are welcomed.

Eagle Scout Project Update – Eagle Scout Will Walsh completed his project on April 30. He did a great job and the Partners were happy for his assistance in renovating the display sign and planting around it.

24/7 Crisis Hotline Phone Number and Flyer – Mrs. MacDonald came up with two 24/7 crisis hot line phone numbers that connect to a “live” person, but they are in Nevada. Police Chief Driscoll will try and get some local numbers.

Somers Partners in Prevention Postcard – Mrs. MacDonald will create a Somers Partners in Prevention Postcard that includes the Partners in Prevention logo, MedReturn Drug Prescription Box information and 24/7 Crisis Hotline Phone Number that can be used as a handout at events, displayed at local pharmacies and inserted as an advertisement in The Somers Record. All agreed that 5” by 7” is the best size. Mrs. Schirmer will contact Accel Printing in Mount Kisco for prices.

NEW BUSINESS:

Display Sign – Mr. Caron has posted a new message about the upcoming prom and graduation. The logo has to be incorporated, perhaps at the top of the sign and solar lighting added. Mrs. Schirmer will follow up with Mr. Caron to get estimates and donations will be solicited.

Future Projects – A discussion about ideas for future projects to include fundraising took place. It was agreed that an event should be planned to include workshops. All were asked to continue to brainstorm and send ideas to Mrs. Cucchiarella and/or Mrs. Schirmer.

Miscellaneous – Mrs. Cucchiarella will be attending the Student Assistance Services coalition get together on June 2 at 11:00 a.m. In addition she will be handing out the MedReturn flyers at the Somers High School PTSA Clothing Drive on June 4.

Police Chief Driscoll reported that during the month of May, 20 pounds of pills were collected in the MedReturn box. He thought it might be a good idea to get together with other volunteer community groups, who have similar goals to that of the Partners. The following statistics were also shared: The most used narcotics in Westchester County based on arrests are: 1st – heroin; 2nd – marijuana; 3rd – cocaine; 4th – pharmaceuticals; and 5th – crack.

The Somers Chamber of Commerce Community Day will be held on September 24. The Partners will once again participate.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m. The Partners will meet again on June 28, 2016 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