

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

July 26, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. The following members were in attendance: Greg Caron, Kathy Cucchiarella, Vinny D'Agnese, and Sandra Elezaj. Carol Cirienco, Christine MacDonald, Patty Otis and Keeva Young-Wright were absent.

Guest Partners present included: Somers Town Councilman Anthony Cirienco, and Somers Police Chief Michael Driscoll.

**Minutes** – The minutes of the May 31, 2016 meeting will be approved at the next meeting as there wasn't a quorum of those at the May meeting present this evening.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**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. Since Mrs. MacDonald was not present, this will be discussed at the August meeting.

**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 contacted Accel Printing in Mount Kisco for prices. This will be discussed at the August meeting since Mrs. MacDonald was absent this evening.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Display Sign** – Moving forward, Mr. D'Agnese will be posting the messages in the display sign. Mr. Caron researched solar lighting and yard spots are best. They can be purchased at Home Depot for about \$250. This will be discussed again next month. Mrs. Schirmer is still waiting to hear back from Signs Ink with regard to placing a top on

the existing display sign that contains the logo.

**The Harris Project** – Mrs. Elezaj spoke about The Harris Project based out of Ardsley. The founders and close friends of hers lost their son Harris to an overdose in October 2013. Their focus is on treating co-occurring disorders (mental and drugs) simultaneously, as 70% of the addicts have underlying mental health issues. They offer a training program called “Mental Health First Aid”. Mrs. Elezaj would like very much for the Partners to co-sponsor some programs with them, particularly for the schools. She will invite them to present at a meeting in the fall.

**Westchester Drug and Alcohol Coalition Meeting** – Mrs. Cucchiarella attended the June Westchester Drug and Alcohol Coalition Meeting in Tarrytown. It was a great networking opportunity. Flyers announcing a couple of upcoming events were shared. One item of particular interest was Burbio, an on-line, self-tailored events calendar that can link into that of the Town’s. Mrs. Cucchiarella will invite them to a meeting in the fall to do a presentation. All will receive notifications of these meetings and are encouraged to attend if they can.

**Yorktown Against Heroin** – A phone meeting took place between Mrs. Cucchiarella and Michael Reda, Vice President of Yorktown Against Heroin. They are interested in partnering with our group and perhaps getting a similar group started in Somers. Further research will be done.

**Northeast Westchester Rotary Club** – Kathi Casella, President of the Northeast Westchester Rotary Club attended the April Community Coffee. Her organization is interested in partnering with the Somers Partners in Prevention. She will be present at the August meeting to discuss this further.

**Somers Chamber of Commerce Celebrate Somers** – As has been done in the past, the Partners will have a presence at the Somers Chamber of Commerce Celebrate Somers event to be held on September 24, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Towne Centre at Somers. Details will be ironed out at the August meeting.

**Miscellaneous** – Police Chief Driscoll reported that in June they only collected 12 pounds of pills, which is about half of what is normally turned in. Senator Murphy is sponsoring another “Shed the Meds” campaign to collect unused drugs at the Somers Police station in August.

Mrs. Cucchiarella has been keeping a list of the Somers Partners in Prevention accomplishments. She shared the list to be sure that she didn’t forget anything.

Attendance at the meetings continues to be an issue. All were reminded that the group meets monthly on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Unless there is a family or work related emergency it is the hope that moving forward everyone will make their best effort to attend all meetings. Participation is also important.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m. The Partners will meet again on August 23, 2016 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