

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

August 23, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. The following members were in attendance: Greg Caron, Carol Cirieco, Kathy Cucchiarella, Vinny D'Agnese, Sandra Elezaj, and Patty Otis. Christine MacDonald and Keeva Young-Wright were absent.

Guest Partners present included: Somers Town Councilman Anthony Cirieco, Somers Police Chief Michael Driscoll, and Northeast Westchester Rotary Club President Kathi Casella.

Minutes – A motion was made by Mrs. Cucchiarella to approve the minutes of the May 31, 2016 meeting as submitted. Mrs. Elezaj seconded the motion. All were in favor.

A motion was made by Mrs. Cucchiarella to approve the minutes of the July 26, 2016 meeting as submitted. Mr. D'Agnese seconded the motion. All were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Harris Project – Arrangements have been made by Mrs. Elezaj to have the founder of The Harris Project based out of Ardsley come to speak at the September meeting. 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". All agree they would like very much to co-sponsor some programs with them, particularly in the schools.

Somers Partners in Prevention Postcard – Creating 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 is a work in progress by Mrs. McDonald. 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 September meeting since Mrs. MacDonald was absent this

evening.

24/7 Crisis Hotline Phone Number – A 24/7 crisis hot line phone number is needed. It was suggested to research whether or not there is an organization that outsources a call center number. Mrs. Schirmer will research further and report back at the September meeting.

Display Sign – Mr. D’Agnese posted a message about the Prescription Drug Drop-Off Program on August 26. Mr. Caron shared the information about the solar lighting that needs to be purchased for the display sign. Mrs. Schirmer will order them from Home Depot and have them installed. The total cost will be about \$240. Signs Ink gave a price of \$750 to add a top with the Partners in Prevention logo to the display sign. Mrs. Schirmer will secure two other quotes and report back at the September meeting.

Somers Chamber of Commerce Celebrate Somers – 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 3:00 p.m. in the Towne Centre at Somers. The registration fee of \$75.00 has been paid. Mrs. Cucchiarella will be there to set up and break down, as well as cover for some of the morning. She will get apples from Stuart’s Farm to give out. Mrs. Otis can cover the table from 12:30 to 3:00 p.m. Mr. Caron and Mr. D’Agnese will report back with their availability. Mrs. Cucchiarella will speak to Mr. Bayer about some students helping out.

Prescription Drug Drop-Off Program – Senator Murphy’s office is sponsoring a Prescription Drug Drop-Off Program on August 26, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Somers Police Department. The group was disappointed to learn that the Somers Partners in Prevention were not listed as a sponsor on the postcard they sent out. Mrs. Cucchiarella did contact the Senator’s office to discuss this further with his public relations staff member. Not only were they apologetic, but the Partners will be included in the alert sent out on August 24 and the press release done at the event.

NEW BUSINESS:

Northeast Westchester Rotary Club – Kathi Casella, President of the Northeast Westchester Rotary Club joined us this evening. She spoke of her organization, as they are very interested in partnering with the Somers Partners in Prevention.

2017 Budget – A review and discussion of the proposed 2017 budget took place. All agreed that the focus for 2017 should be educating the community about the Somers Partners in Prevention. In addition to contributing toward a speaker for the 6th through 12th graders and a ½ page ad in the Somers High School yearbook, monies will be spent to create a Partner’s postcard that can be left in the local pharmacies and inserted into The Somers Record, as well as a flyer with a 24/7 crisis hotline number that can be distributed. An ultimate goal for 2018 will be to host a mini-event for the community.

Somers Middle and High School Open Houses – The Somers Partners in Prevention

will be present at both the Somers Middle and High School Open Houses. Mr. D'Agnesse will cover the 6th grade Open House on September 8 at 7:00 p.m., Mrs. Elezaj, 7th and 8th grade on September 14 at 7:00 p.m., and Mrs. Cirienco the High School Open House on September 29 at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. The Partners will meet again on September 27, 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