

Litchfield Prevention Council

Regular Meeting Minutes

St. Anthony of Padua, Litchfield and Zoom

May 10, 2022 at 7:00 PM

Members Present: Gary Waugh, Bob Berson, Jill Johnson, Coleen Kinkade, Jaime Makuc

Members Absent: Matt Dyer, Jacqueline Tiul

Others present: Marit Bezahler, Fran Klemm, Timothy Angevine (on zoom), Tianna Lee (on zoom), Barbara Putnam, recording secretary

Fran Klemm has a personal interest in Prevention because she lost a son to addiction 18 years ago. She can offer her skills as an artist and art teacher.

Marit Bezahler moved here from Martha's Vineyard, where the overdose rate is high and services are low. She has a personal interest in the work of the Prevention Council because her son is struggling with addiction, and she has struggled to find help for him. She wants to learn about funding and services for getting help to families of addicted children.

Call to Order: Gary Waugh called the meeting to order at 7:25pm

School Liaison Report: Tianna Lee reported

- COVID cases in the school are increasing
- The school is generally open for visitors and events
- Information on social hosting (serving alcohol to underage visitors in your home) needs to be approved before it can be circulated.

Law Enforcement Liaison Report: None

Tim Angevine, member of the Wamogo Prevention Council, reported that the film, Resilience is worth a showing. The format of the Uprooting Addiction showing would be good: combining a showing with an opportunity for discussing and sharing.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the March 8, 2022 meeting were reviewed. Jill Johnson moved to approve the minutes as submitted, seconded by Jamie Makuc. All voted in favor, motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Jill Johnson reported a balance of \$16,220.18, after having paid for the Uprooting Addiction movie, mailing, flyer, and the Litchfield Community Center for Family Game night.

Correspondence: none

Old Business:

- **UpRooting Addiction Event** - Monday, April 4, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Bantam Cinema was a success. There was an overflow crowd. The audience discussion after the movie was powerful and moving. There was Narcan training at the event, and both Narcan and testing strips were given to participants. Denise Raap, First Selectwoman, asked Gary to consider doing another showing, perhaps in a school setting where more parents might become involved.

- **Website Redesign** Update –. Jill Johnson reported that she has been unable to get other quotes yet. She will bring them to the next meeting.
- **Family Game Night** - May 13, 2022 at the Litchfield Community Center. Jackie Tiul sent an update; everything is in place for the event to move forward. A motion by Coleen Kinkade and seconded by Jill Johnson to contribute \$200 to Family Game night passed unanimously.
- **Prom Event** update – Coleen Kinkade is working on a “Pop-Up Prom Store” for next year where tux rentals, prom dresses, hair and nail salons, and other businesses can come, along with us offering information about the dangers of underage drinking.
- **Social Hosting Laws** – a handout will be included in the Virtual Backpack from the schools. There was discussion about more effective ways to reach people.
- **Meeting with Denise Raap re Town Budget** - Gary Waugh reported that the Town Budget has only a placeholder in this year's budget, with no funding, because we have not spent the money we have. We need to start in November/December to get Town funding for the following fiscal year that starts July 1.
- **Gambling presentation** – Gary Waugh would like to get the Board of Education to approve a schoolwide lecture on gambling addiction. We could offer to pay for it this year, and hopefully the schools would include it in future budgets. He was impressed with Kaitlin Brown, who does lectures and authored a book about gambling addiction.

New Business:

Marit Bezahler asked Tianna to find out more about the health curricula in the schools.

Marit Bezahler asked about whether the Council works with professional development. A monthly meeting with the Schools and Greenwoods dissolved with COVID but might be worth reinstating. Alison Fulton and Emma Hollis Johnson of the Western Connecticut Coalition would be helpful resources.

Bob Berson would like us to sponsor Narcan training.

Bob Berson suggested that the Council have a calendar to keep track of upcoming events to help us start planning in a timely manner.

There was discussion about moving our regular meetings back to the Annex in Bantam where there is better wifi.

Adjournment: Coleen Kinkade moved to adjourn, Jill Johnson seconded. All voted in favor and the meeting adjourned at 8:43.

Next meeting will be June 14, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Putnam, Recording Secretary
Gary Waugh, Chairman