



# TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD

## Minutes

### Substance Abuse Prevention Commission

May 9, 2019 5:00pm – 5:45pm

Room 422

#### 1. Roll Call

- a. **Present:** Jean Schensul (co-chair), Jonathan Merritt (coordinator), Nordia Napier, Howard Dashefsky, Helen Drohan, Astrid Calderon, Amanda Martin, James Mahoney, Ken Plourd, David Reyes, Emily Melnick, Nikia Newkirk, Helen Rubino-Turco
- b. **Absent:** Carl Shields, Benjamin Grippo, Lorna Thomas-Farquharson, Kim Ambrose

#### 2. Approval of Minutes

- a. Minutes of Meeting of: April 18, 2019
  - i. Coordinator Jonathan Merritt motioned, Chair Jean Schensul seconded, 3-0 in favor, approved.

#### 3. New Business

- a. SAPC Membership Progress Update
  - i. New voting member Howard Dashefsky was introduced and welcomed to the commission.
  - ii. Co-Chair Chastity Rodriguez submitted her resignation prior to the meeting. The West Hartford Substance Abuse Prevention Commission thanks Chastity Rodriguez for her time served on the commission.
  - iii. Discussion on how to recruit new members, Human Services is looking to recommend members, individual members can reach out; PLTI wanted a presentation on SAPC
- b. Presentation on Kratom by Co-Chair Jean Schensul has been tabled for future meeting.
- c. SAPC Recommendations for Town Council
  - i. Last year SAPC had recommendations, but they did not get submitted
  - ii. SAPC will discussing the following recommendations, in addition to others, to be submitted after the June meeting:

1. SAPC recommends the endorsement of National Prevention Week to become an annual event in West Hartford
2. SAPC recommends that Town Council fully support the West Hartford JRB
3. SAPC recommends the funding of biannual school risk assessment survey in the West Hartford town budget in 2021
4. SAPC recommends allowing teens from neighboring towns to pay to use the West Hartford Teen Center

**4. Chair Jean Schensul asks for a motion to extend SAPC time to 6pm; Nordia Napier motioned, Jean Schensul seconded; 4-0 in favor to extend meeting until 6pm.**

- a. National Prevention Week
  - i. Social Services has collaborated with WHPP to present information during the whole week of prevention
  - ii. More info can be found on West Hartford's website
  - iii. Formal Proclamation by Mayor Shari Cantor will be held on Tuesday 5/14/19, 7:30pm as part of the town council meeting; SAPC and WHPP have been formally invited to participate
  - iv. WHPP/Teen Center movies will be on display in the lobby of town hall all week

**5. Adjournment**

- a. Jonathan Merritt motioned, Howard Dashefsky seconded; 4-0 in favor to adjourn the meeting at 6:00pm.



**ANY INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY WHO NEEDS SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETING SHOULD CONTACT SUZANNE OSLANDER, DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES 561-7570, FIVE DAYS PRIOR TO THE MEETING.**