

**WEST HARTFORD PREVENTION COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.**

This regular meeting of the West Hartford Prevention Council will be conducted as a virtual meeting. Members of the public may view the meeting on West Hartford Community Interactive: Comcast Channel 96, Frontier TV Channel 6099, YouTube and www.whctv.org.

Members of the public may also provide comments on agenda items by calling at the scheduled date and time and using the following access code:

November 12, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. Call 1-408-418-9388 Access Code: 132 533 6472

MINUTES

1. Roll Call

a. Voting:

- i. Present:** Jean Schensul, Carl Shields, Jonathan Merritt, Kadzo Kangwana, Brenda McKeown, Howard Dashefsky, Nordia Napier, Natalie DeLaCruz
- ii. Absent:** none

b. Ex-Officio:

- i. Present:** Amanda Martin, Tor Fiske, Astrid Calderon, Ari Steinberg
- ii. Absent:** Helen Rubino-Turco

c. Guest: Jacqueline Zea-Edgar, Chris Dutton, Nicholas Sanford, Jennifer Evans, Brooks McConnell, Patty Graham, Melissa Hickey

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. Minutes of Meeting of October 8, 2020
- b. Motion: Howard Dashefsky
- c. Second: Natalie DeLaCruz
- d. Vote: 7-0 in favor, motion passed.

3. Old Business

a. Community Wellness Assessment (15 minutes)

- i. In communication with UConn**
- ii. Subcommittee conference call last Thursday, November 5**
 - Introductions and sharing data sources
 - Presentation of former data capture
 - West Hartford Prevention Partnership discussion
 - Creating and maintaining database
 - Changes in Library since pandemic – had 14000 curbside deliveries since June
 - Discussion on mental health and loneliness of people who normally attend library activities

b. LPC Grant

- i. Reduce vaping 5% by 2025 regarding people ages 12-18 years**
- ii. Drafted activities and events to present to coalition and council for approval**

- Design/Enhance/Build coalition
- Monitor and evaluate data
- Community team activities and materials
- iii. Must complete all grant requirements by June 30, 2021
- iv. Grant total is for \$7141.00
- v. Next coalition meeting will discuss further the grant requirements and programs
- vi. In the past, the grant funded the following:
 - Safe Grad Parties for Conard/Hall
 - Banners for Drug take back day
 - Charcoal bags for unused medications
 - The Bridge Family Center newsletter
- vii. Need to be more specific in the scope of the spending
- c. Development of Community Coalition
 - i. Satisfy the development of LPC grant and the Community wellness assessment
 - ii. Subcommittee work identifies assets within the community

4. New Business

- a. Vacancies in the WHPC (5 minutes)
 - i. Come December 2020, 2 vacancies will be filled
 - ii. Bob Macha will replace Jean Schensul as resident at large, representing the business sector
 - iii. Patricia Graham will join our commission as well
- b. Social Services Director Report (10 minutes)
 - i. Are there questions related to activities or actions that Social Services is taking?
 - Senior Centers have been closed down; is there any sort of strategy or effort to reach seniors?
 - Calls done to seniors by fire department, social services, etc.
 - Social Services is ready to face down another lockdown if necessary
 - Juniper home will be delivering thanksgiving food to homebound people, including disabled and seniors
 - Community partnership team is involved with the food pantry
- c. WHBHD Report (5 minutes)
- d. WH Public Schools/BOE Report (5 minutes)
- e. Youth Service Bureau Report (5 minutes)
 - i. 2 Grief groups coming up – Nov 30 for middle school kids, and on Dec 1 for adults, each running weekly – reach out to Chris Dutton at the Bridge
 - ii. Continuing to offer SMART recovery group, Thursday afternoons at 330 at 100 Shield St in person; have capability to work virtually as well – high school students who are dealing with ANY substance issues, not just major addiction
 - Is there information about the group that can be

distributed to Natalie at Conard?

- iii. Teen Center has been operational at Beachland Park, but as of Monday, we are back in Elmwood Community Center – limited to 25 participants per day; teens are encouraged to come out after school on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 2:30pm-5:00pm.
- iv. Teen Leadership Group will be planning a clothing drive for the coming months
- v. Turning Points Program with a prevention focus: November held a self-care and prosocial health activity Hike to Heublein tower with photography and discussion; more life skills and other options in the coming months for West Hartford teens
- f. Upcoming Events / Activities of Interest
 - i. PTO meeting Sedgwick middle school next Monday, 11/16/20, 7pm
 - YSB to be involved (Chris or Jon)

5. Public Comment

6. Adjournment

- a. Motion: Jean Schensul
- b. Second: Howard Dashefsky
- c. Vote: 8-0 approved

Next meeting: Thursday, December 10, 2020, 5 PM- 6 PM; Virtual Meeting

The Chairman will provide the procedure for participating in the virtual meeting at the start of the meeting.

Any individual with a disability who needs special assistance to access the meeting should contact Suzanne Oslander, Department of Social Services 561-7580, at least three days prior to the meeting.