

Watchung Hills Regional Municipal Alliance (MAC)
February 13, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Our email address: whmunicipalalliance@gmail.com

Attendees:

Iris Alston	Judy Carbone	Kathleen Humphrey	Carolyn Seracka
Anna Baitel	Joe Casorio	Eshika Kaul	Jennifer Sorensen
Jim Benscoter	Alicia Carman	Derek Ressa	Cynthia Webster
Gwen Blake	Bella DiSturco	Kevin Rice	

- I. **Call to Order** – Cindy Webster called the meeting to order at 7:36 PM in Room 107 at Watchung Hills Regional HS in Warren.
- II. **Introductions** –Everyone introduced themselves. Welcome back to Jennifer Sorensen.
- III. **Minutes from the January 16, 2019 meeting** were accepted and approved by all.
- IV. **Somerset County MAC Update** (Jennifer Sorensen)
 - 3rd Quarter report will be due Wednesday, April 10, 2019
 - **Monday, March 18, 6:00 PM:** NAMI “In Our Own Voices” Presentation. A free 1-hour program led by people in recovery. Approved for 1 CE from the NJ Department of Education.
 - Community resource: **The Ammon Foundation**, a non-profit in Linden that awards scholarships to people with at least six months of recovery from substance use to attend trade schools, certification programs, or 2-4 year college programs. They award approximately \$100,000 annually.
 - Grant applications for 2019-20 funding was submitted on time and are currently under county and state review.
- V. **Program Reports**
 - High School Student Updates
 - TAG – Anna Baitel, Bella DiSturco& Eshika Kaul
 - Music in the mornings is every other Friday. There is not as much “live” music.
 - Seniors go to 9th grade gym classes and talk about their struggles and how to maintain balance
 - They are selling “Stop the Stigma” keychains. Proceeds will go to NAMI Will try to get students to sign up early for Lindsey Meyer’s Teen Summer Leadership Conference. Dates for the sessions are: August 19-23 and August 26-30, 2019
 - Safety Assessment & Intervention-January 31, 2019 (Derek Ressa) – Alicia to send follow up form for reporting. Actual cost was \$1000. Representatives from each district will coordinate with their staff to implement the interventions, so by the time the students get to the high school, everyone will be on the same page.
- VI. **New Business**
 - Resilient Youth of Somerset County – Presentation on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) or show “Paper Tigers” (Jennifer Sorensen) – Green Brook is one of the that still needs to be trained. It’s about a 45 to 60-minute presentation. Derek will follow up with Jennifer S. to schedule.

- 2019 Great Pumpkin Certified 5K Run/Walk – Carolyn secured November 2nd for Mobus Park and she also secured the insurance.

VII. Old Business

Program ideas for 2018-19 grant year – To be discussed

- D.A.R.E. – Warren – Alicia will follow up with the Warren Township DARE Officer.
- Showing of the movie “Beautiful Boy”- Gwen will watch the movie.
- Marianne Angelillo presentation - Cindy Webster will follow up
- “Speakers for Change” (Kevin Rice)-May be planned in the Fall.

Program ideas for 2018-19 grant year – To be planned

- Showing of the movie “Angst” to WHRHS students and parents (Kevin Rice)-will be shown during the day to students and in the evening on April 30th at 7pm for parents. Approx. cost is \$1125. Blueprint will be used to facilitate Q&A.
- Timothy Shoemaker– Hiding in Plain Site (Kevin Rice)-April 2nd at 7p
- D.A.R.E. – Long Hill - Judy Carbone will follow up.
- Narcan Training –Carolyn Seracka will get a date in May-possibly a meeting time
- Adult Mental Health First Aid – Target population-Youth & Seniors - Cindy Webster waiting for the minutes to the recent Youth Services meeting, to see what they are working on and she is waiting for a call back from the person in charge of senior programming
- Presentations during Municipal Alliance meetings
 - Pat Aussem of Family Support and Recovery Group (Jack Walsh)-No update
 - The Society for the Prevention of Teen Suicide-Schedule for April meeting – Follow up with Jack
- 15 Min. Child Break - Judy Carbone is waiting to hear back from the Principal at Central School in Long Hill.

Planned programs

- ✓ D.A.R.E.-Green Brook – 1/9/19 – 6/19/19

VI. Next Meeting - Wednesday, March 13, 2019 at 7:30 PM in Room 107 at Watchung Hills Regional High School located at 108 Stirling Rd., Warren, NJ

The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 PM