

**Town of Barnstable
Human Services Committee
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 13, 2016**

Names in BOLD indicate action items.

Present:

Scott Fitzgerald (chair), Meaghan Mort, Heidi Nelson and Stacie Peugh

Absent:

Jen Cullum, Town Council Liaison, Heather Strassel and Christopher McMillan

Guests:

Cindy Martin

Order:

The meeting came to order at 5:10 p.m.

Committee Membership

Scott informed the committee that we have a new member, Scott McMillan, who was not able to attend tonight, and that Charlie Hetzel has resigned from the committee. We appreciate Charlie's service to the town and to the committee over the past few years.

Public Comment

Cindy Martin, Barnstable resident and mother, has a public health background and serves on the Prevention Working Group of the Regional Substance Abuse Council. She stated that the Town Council has the power to decrease the negative impact of recreational marijuana on the town. In particular she is concerned with access to edibles, and stated that she hopes the state will impose a one-year moratorium on the law to improve its implementation. She said that she attended the forum in Sandwich recently and learned that limiting access to marijuana is a way to decrease addiction, and that children have a 50% chance of becoming addicted if they have at least one parent that is addicted. She urges that Town Council use its authority to define the time, place and manner of implementing the recreational marijuana law. The Committee thanked Ms. Martin for her time and suggested she appear during public comment at the next Town Council meeting.

Minutes

The minutes of the November 15, 2016 meeting were approved as written.

Cape Cod Healthcare Community Health Needs Assessment

Everyone was asked to review the needs assessment prior to the meeting. Scott asked, what issues came out of your review of the assessment.

Meaghan said that a concern of hers is transportation to access services. She has recommended in the past that the CCRTA explore the system used on Marthas Vineyard which she says works

very effectively. She also includes reproductive health/family planning, and Hepatitis C services as important issues to her. Finally Meaghan added that affordable housing for low-income elderly will become a crisis if not addressed.

Stacey added that affordable housing is important to good health.

Heidi added that she would like to know more about services in the County that address prevention of heart disease and cancer, the Senior Center and the Alzheimers Association, and the newly revived county hoarding task force.

Committee Next Steps

Heidi offered to invite Lisa Guyon of the Community Benefits office at Cape Cod Healthcare to come and talk with us about the needs assessment.

We continued the discussion about substance abuse prevention and recovery, and added that we would like to ask Lisa Guyon about CCHC's efforts in these areas.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Heidi Nelson
Duffy Health Center and Secretary to Committee

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, January 10, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.