

**MINUTES OF THE
CRANBURY TOWNSHIP
MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE COMMITTEE ON
DRUG ABUSE AND ALCOHOLISM**

October 17, 2023

TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING

The scheduled meeting of the Cranbury Township Municipal Alliance Committee was held on October 17, 2023 in the Township Committee Meeting Room, in Cranbury Township at 3:30 pm.

STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE

Pursuant to the Sunshine Law, adequate notice in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J. S. A. 10:4-6) was filed on January 7, 2023, of this meeting's date, time and place, the agenda was posted on the Township bulletin board, sent to any requesting personal notice, and filed with the Municipal Clerk.

CALL TO ORDER

Member, Sasha Weinstein filled in for Chairperson Joann Charwin in her absence and called the meeting to order at 3:35 pm.

ROLL CALL

Present to the roll call by Secretary Warnebold: Sasha Weinstein, Ria Benerofe, Dr. Jen Diszler, Alternate #1, Diane Stanley and Alternate #2, Erika Shulman. Chief, Mike Owens, Joann Charwin, Anjali Joshi and Robyn Skeete were absent. Liaison, Eman El-Badawi was present.

MINUTES

Sasha asked for Motion to approve September Minutes. Motion by Dr. Diszler to approve, Motion seconded by Maria Benerofe. All were in favor to approve the September Minutes.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

Three new Student Representatives attended the meeting. They are: Kanish Mogha, Petros Drakoupoulis and Elizabeth Wong. Kanish read an email which outlines activities for the week, including Student Council making daily announcements to the student body about positive messages, activities involving mindfulness breaks and coloring activities. He stated this years' theme will be "Be Kind to Your Mind". Sasha thanked him for sharing Red Ribbon Week activity information.

POLICE REPORT

Chief Owens was absence due to a scheduling conflict but prepared a report for the Board. Sasha read the report which addressed the Municipal Alliance Board question of combining National Night Out Event with future Health and Wellness Events. Mike reported that he checked with the Police Union who agreed to combine the two events on the same night. Also, Mike reported the Jamfest gaming equipment can continue to be stored at the Police Department until May or the Spring Jamfest.

LIAISON REPORT

Eman expressed congratulations and thanked the Municipal Alliance for setting up storage arrangements and partnering with the Police Department and National Night Out. Eman shared the proposed Municipal Alliance Budget with the Township Committee.

BUDGET

Vote on 2024 Budget - Sasha opened discussion on moving and storage of Jamfest equipment and shared the school has allowed a container to be put on school property near their barn. Joann received 3 quotes for storage container solutions and Jake's Storage has the best quote. Their fee for purchase, delivery and set up would be \$3,200.00. There will be smaller, additional fees to build a ramp to the container. A quote of \$450.00 to build a ramp was provided by Dave Gallagher, Maintenance Supervisor at the school. Sasha reported Joann is working with Dr. Jen Diszler, Dave Weidele and Dave Gallagher at the school to facilitate all. Sasha thanked Dr. Diszler for her assistance with the storage container.

Sasha shared the Municipal Alliance can order the container and use capital funds to purchase same. Sasha Weinstein called for a vote to approve \$2,500.00 plus additional fees for set up and to construct ramp for the container.

Roll Call Vote:

- 1. Sasha Weinstein - Aye**
- 2. Maria Benerofe – Aye**
- 3. Dr. Jen Diszler – Aye**
- 4. Diane Stanley, Alternate 1 – Aye**
- 5. Erika Shulman, Alternate 2 – Aye**

Sasha called for a vote on the proposed 2024 Municipal Alliance Budget which is similar to the 2023 budget, the only exception being adding funds to the Teen Mental Health line item.

Roll Call Vote:

- 1. Sasha Weinstein – Aye**
- 2. Maria Benerofe – Aye**
- 3. Dr. Jen Diszler - Aye**
- 4. Diane Stanley, Alternate 1 – Aye**
- 5. Erika Shulman, Alternate 2 – Aye**

All Members in agreement to adopt the proposed 2024 budget.

Sasha also reported that Statewide Moving and Storage in Highstown will be able to pick up gaming equipment from the Police Department and deliver to Cranbury School for the November 3rd Jamfest. They then will retrieve and return it to the Police Department.

NON-MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

None

OLD BUSINESS

Dr. Matt Bellace Programs for Parents and Students – Dr. Diszler reported the evening parent program was similar as the day program. Unfortunately, turnout was not as high as anticipated. School will focus on attaining higher attendance for future parent programs. Student program was successful.

ONGOING BUSINESS

World Mental Health Day – October 18, 2023 – Municipal Alliance will participate with the Mayor's Wellness Committee from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm, and have a table to provide resources on mental health for the community. Centra State will have their van there and will be administering vaccines and blood pressure

screenings. Diane Stanley will man the table from 10:00 am to 11:30. Sasha asked for volunteer for 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. Eman and Sasha will be there. Eman would be available for one hour to sit at the table.

Halloween – Sasha reported that Member, Anjali Joshi will be handing out Smarties candies with positive messages.

Red Ribbon Week – Sasha shared will be October 23rd through the 31st at the Cranbury School. She asked the Student Reps to report on activities planned. Petros spoke about Buddy Classes and explained that older students join with younger classes to participate in healthy, positive activities collaboratively.

Jamfest – November 3rd, Sasha will reach out to Mrs. Penny Pftikis about a need for additional foosball tables. Sasha asked for a vote to set aside \$60.00 for any additional items for the Jamfest.

Roll Call Vote:

1. **Sasha Weinstein – Aye**
2. **Maria Benerofe – Aye**
3. **Dr. Jen Diszler – Aye**
4. **Diane Stanley, Alternate 1 – Aye**
5. **Erika Shulman, Alternate 2 – Aye**

Sasha asked Dr. Diszler if she knew when the Spring Jamfest was planned for. Dr. Diszler shared probably February.

NEW BUSINESS

Meeting Dates for 2024 -

Sasha opened discussion on thoughts for moving Municipal Alliance Board meetings from the 3rd Tuesday to the 2nd Tuesday of the month. Brief discussion. Dr. Diszler shared the current schedule of the 3rd Tuesday does not conflict with any school activities. Overall, Members felt no conflict with meetings remaining scheduled as they are. Discussion will be tabled for future meeting. Student Representative, Kanish Mogha shared Student Liaison's would have no conflict of day changes.

4th Grade Art Contest through Partnership For A Drug Free New Jersey – Sasha reported all 4th grades in the state are invited to participate in drawing a positive message with the best drawing being depicted on a folder.

DISCUSSION

Kanish asked if during a vote, can a voice vote be counted as opposed to a roll call. Dr. Diszler and Liaison, Eman El-Badawi explained in government financial matters, a roll call vote is necessary as it directly involves spending tax payer money and all meetings are recorded for perpetuity. Dr. Diszler further clarified by explaining by laws need to be adhered to.

Ria Benerofe shared on October 29th there will be a heart walk at Mercer County College. Penn Med offers free CPR each week during the month of February. Ria, through Penn Med, held CPR classes in South Brunswick schools last year. She offered to hold classes at Princeton H.S. if they are interested in scheduling some days. Penn Med is currently scheduling full day classes at the Hun School in Princeton for staff and students with a wellness day for staff.

Ria also reported Penn Med trained 10% of staff at Princeton H.S. and they are trying to schedule another group now and will try to get additional dates for Spring training. Sasha asked how initial training went. Ria reported they had 4 instructors and class was mostly comprised of Phys Ed Teachers.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING

As there were no additional comments or discussion, Sasha asked for Motion to adjourn the meeting. Diane Stanley Motioned to adjourn, Motion seconded by Dr. Diszler. Meeting adjourned at 4:06 pm.

CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify, that I am the duly appointed Secretary of the Cranbury Township Municipal Alliance Committee on Drug Abuse and Alcoholism and that this document, consisting of 4 pages constitutes a true and correct copy of the minutes of the meeting held on October 17, 2023

Kathy Warnebold, Secretary

Approved Minutes November 21, 2023