

PARTNERS IN PREVENTION

Town of Somers

WESTCHESTER COUNTY, N.Y.

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KATHY CUCCHIARELLA
CHAIRWOMAN

SOMERS TOWN HOUSE
335 ROUTE 202
SOMERS, NY 10589



MEETING MINUTES
June 10, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

The following members were in attendance: Andy Casimir, Carol Cirienco, Kathy Cucchiarella, Lauren Johnson and Pat Otis.

Margaret DiLorenzo was absent.

Somers Middle School Youth Prevention Coordinator Amanda Casey, Resident Tom Mauro and Somers High School Youth Prevention Coordinator Jessica Pereira were also present.

Minutes – A motion was made by Mr. Casimir to approve the minutes of the May 13, 2026 meeting as submitted. Mrs. Otis seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Town Budget Expenditures – \$3,000 was approved for the 2026 budget. Mrs. Schirmer was reimbursed \$92.00 for fidgets, tablecloths, lollipops and stickers for Mental Health Awareness Month. The balance in the account is \$1,037.

Drug Free Communities (DFC) Grant:

A request to the County by Mrs. Cucchiarella to borrow the DWI simulator was approved. It will be available at the Senior Breakfast on June 12th from 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the High School.

KNOW 2 Prevent coordinated three surveys for teachers and administrators, students as well as parents on banning cell phones in the schools were created. It is a simple, five-minute survey that Ms. Casey and Ms. Pereira shared with some of their students today and tomorrow will approach some teachers and administrators. Additionally, Mrs. Cucchiarella and the KNOW2 Prevent team are working on planning for next year's speakers.

On August 31st, International Awareness Day, the schools will be lit up in purple.

On June 23rd, Mrs. Cucchiarella will attend a CDC meeting.

Soon, Mrs. Cucchiarella will start working on the Annual Progress Report which is due in August.

Student Assistance Services Counselors

Ms. Casey has decorated her bulletin board targeting on the end of the school year. She will host a Flip Flop Into Summer activity. Shirley Temples will be served on picnic day and she is having a Wellness T-Shirt Design contest.

Ms. Pereira created a flyer and Instagram for Mental Health Awareness Month and hosted a spin the wheel activity in the cafeteria. A flyer and Instagram were created for the DWI simulator. A flyer and 6' by 6' sign about prom safety were created and will be at the Senior Breakfast on June 12th. Ms. Pereira's bulletin board is about summer resources. She also spoke to some students about coming to the Partner's meetings in the fall. Ms. Pereira thanked the Partners in their willingness to provide items for the activities she has for the students.

On June 4th the Peer Leadership students held a session for 15 students on substance use as they head off to college. Ms. Pereira was in attendance and told the students that the Partners could provide them with Narcan kits.

Both Ms. Casey and Ms. Pereira met with the parents of 8th graders in preparing them for the transition to the High School.

Somers High and Middle School Updates – Mr. Rodriguez and Mrs. Mangone were not present.

Youth Programs Updates – Hopefully, some Somers High and Middle School students will be willing to attend the Partners meetings next school year, especially since they are Zoom meetings.

Somers Police Chief Updates – Police Chief Linkletter was not present. 126 pounds of medication were received in April, 106 of which was from the Medication Take Back Day and 28 pounds was collected in May.

OLD BUSINESS

Youth Vaping Initiative – A \$5,000 grant was awarded to create a Youth Vaping PSA. Mrs. Cucchiarella has asked Ms. Casey and Ms. Pereira to work with some of their students to create the PSA, which hopefully can be shown at the Carmel movie theatre as it reopened last Friday. They may also reach out to Samantha Wagner regarding the Pillow Talk program she did.

Narcan Training – Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. Cucchiarella were supposed to Narcan train the Somers Middle School staff last March. As another year has passed, Mrs.

Cucchiarella will make an appointment with the new Somers Middle School Principal Paul Brennan over the summer to make these arrangements.

Freshman Peer Leadership – Mrs. Cucchiarella hoped to coordinate with students with the assistance of Doug Packard to move forward with an addition to the current Freshman Peer Leadership program and hoped to have Andy Duran, CEO of LEAD, run a one-day workshop. This project has been put on hold as DFC funds are limited at the moment.

Lion's/Leo's Partnership/Opportunities – Mrs. Ciriaco will connect Mrs. Cucchiarella and Dr. Bridgham who oversees the Leos.

Sign and Banner – Mr. Mauro changed the sign to read "Congratulations Graduates" and will hang the "Congratulations Graduates" banner up in Bailey Park.

Soccerfest – It has been confirmed to Mrs. Schirmer that Soccerfest will not be held this year.

Somers Woman's Club Tag Sale – Mrs. Schirmer has reached out to the Somers Woman's Club about having an information table at their Tag Sale in September. She has to submit an application which can't be done until July 1st.

NEW BUSINESS

Adult Mental Health Training – Mrs. Johnson is certified to teach Adult Mental Health Training which is a 7-hour class. A minimum of 4 is needed to run the class with a maximum of 30. The Partners can pay for the manuals and guides for the participants. She and Mrs. Cucchiarella will come up with some dates and see if the Program Room in the Library is available.

Scholarship

Mr. Mauro wondered if the Partners could offer a \$250 scholarship next year to a graduating senior who has helped the Partners in some capacity. Mrs. Schirmer will see if Town funds can be used for something like that and report back.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m. and the Partners will meet next on July 8th at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Schirmer, Secretary
Somers Partners in Prevention

cc: Partners in Prevention
Town Board
Town Clerk