

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
MAYOR'S OPIOID TASK FORCE
111 NORTH MAIN STREET
JULY 15, 2024 @ 5:00 p.m.**

ATTENDEES: Mayor Jeffrey Caggiano
Stephen Bynum
Chief Mark Morello
Sandra Kamens
Christie Ganavage, BBHD
Kristina Tanguay, BBHD
Matt Norton, Agape House
Robert Koenemund, The Village for Families & Children
Carmen Maranda (Zoom)
Chris Thebarger, SVDP (Zoom)
Lauren Pisto (Zoom)
Courtney Dollar (Zoom)
Angelika Karwowski, BBHD (Zoom)
Mary Fortier, State Representative
Peter Kelley
Robin Klug – Locum Tenes Recording Secretary

ITEM #1 – CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS

Mayor Caggiano called the meeting to order at 5:01 followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM #2 – ACCEPTANCE OF APRIL MINUTES

A **motion** was made by Sandy Kamens to approve the meeting minutes and **seconded** by Christina Ganavage. All voted in favor.

ITEM #3 – UPDATE ITEMS

ITEM #3A – COBRA & BRISTOL POLICE PARTNERSHIP

Chief Morello reported on Office concerns related to police involvement in the relocation of unhoused people.

ITEM #3B - B.E.S.T.

Stephen Bynum reported the B.E.S.T. Coalition is providing staff education to become Narcan administration trainers. In collaboration with the Student Resource Office, and the Prevention Council, planning is underway for a local police service announcement. Two prevention days this summer will be held at Brackett Park. This Fall, a perception survey about drugs will be conducted with 8th – 12th grade Bristol students.

A **motion** was made by Sandy Kamens to fund up to \$800.00 for the production of corrected educational opioid brochures upon draft approval by the Bristol-Burlington Health District, and **seconded** by Christina Ganavage. All voted in favor.

ITEM #3C – MAYOR’S UPDATE

Mayor Caggiano requested an update regarding revisions to the educational opioid flier and expressed that the finished product needed to contain recovery-specific resources and a QR code. Sandra Kamens reported updates to the flier were still needed. Discussion followed.

ITEM #4 – NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Caggiano introduced and proposed participation in a “Journey Home Project” pilot program. Funding sources and a budget was proposed. Chris Thebarger provided additional detail on the Journey Home programs and their performances.

A **motion** was made by Kristina Tanguay to fund up to \$86,000 for the establishment pilot “Journey Home Program” to re-house individuals with substance abuse, and homelessness comorbidities, currently encamped at Prospect Street, and **seconded** by Sandra Kamens. All voted in favor.

ITEM #5 – OLD BUSINESS

None.

ITEM #6 – ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

ITEM #7 - ADJOURNMENT

A **motion** was made by Matt Norton to adjourn the meeting, and **seconded** by Sandy Kamens at 6:08 p.m. All voted in favor.