

Corinth Community Coalition Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, February 16, 2021 Web Meeting on Zoom

Jeff called the meeting to order at 4:00PM

Members Present: Jeff Spiegel, KellyAnn Donahue, Carole Freeman, Alice Mower, Christiane Carroll, Brian Carroll, Dwayna Covey, and Andy Barter

Jeff moved that Andy Barter serve as Secretary; KellyAnn seconded, all in favor.

Food Support

KellyAnn reported operation from 5:30-6:30 on Fridays. They are no longer able to share statistics. The food shelf is fully stocked, and they have picked up the normal order for February.

Jeff- The CCC is continuing to deliver meals for six clients for Little Rivers, on a bi-weekly schedule with additions and deletions from Sasha Emerson.

Neighbor to Neighbor

Alice reported that a second round of calling everyone was conducted with the same panel of volunteers, and with no alarming information. There is a hardship of coming up with telephone numbers to reach people. All callers are informed that Carole Freeman is available for support of vaccination sign up.

Alice- most people love the contact and to chat but there is not an overwhelming need for help. KellyAnn- the newsletter goes out by mail.

KellyAnn found that someone on her list reported that she was not going to get the vaccine; KellyAnn listened but did not challenge the opinion.

☐ **Action Item:** Consider an article for the the town quarterly newsletter from Little Rivers. Include Stories about vaccination success and benefits, continue with stories about other health and wellness services after the pandemic. Consider submitting quarterly articles to the newsletter from Little Rivers to keep residents informed about the clinic services.

East Corinth General Store

Additional masks provided by Sandy Spiegel (50) and Little Rivers (200). People are wearing them, they are accepted, and it is a positive experience. Jeff contacted Renee about the Norwich Lion's Club grant to help with programs in the Upper Valley. Jeff described the 'Pay it Forward Program' at the general store, and the Club was supportive. Jeff pre-filled the application and provided it to Renee. The application is due by March 12th.

Financial Report

Every month revenues from funds from the collection of recyclables from the recycling station will be donated to the CCC. Collection from the center to Bradford redemption has been on a rotation with Jeff and Sandy Spiegel, Carl Demrow, Bob Vondel, and Dwayna and Raymond Covey. Bradford Redemption will send a check to the Conservation Commission in Corinth, and they will send checks to the CCC.

- ☐ **Action Item:** Have a future discussion of how to expend the funds.

We have an account at WRSB, and the account signers are Sandy Spiegel (Treasurer) and Alice Mower. We have a current balance of \$175.

The group considered gas cards for people that are transporting food to the clients at Little Rivers and agreed to start with two, \$25 gas cards.

- ☐ **Action Item:** Jeff will ask Treasurer to procure the gas cards.

New Business

Community Health and Resource Advocate

(1) Role of the Town Health Officer (Currently, Chris Groschner).

- Jeff reported that Chris described very difficult stories of what he has had to deal with. Glynn Pellagrino also described similar stories from his term as Town Health Officer.

- The only actions health officers can take include situations that have an environmental cause like utilities (heat, etc.) or rodent infestation.
- Consider changing the name from Town Health Officer to “Town Environmental Health Officer”

(2) Municipal Grant for a Community Health & Resource Advocate

a. Jeff decided against applying for the grant after discussions with Chris Groshner and Carl Demrow who indicated the grant application and oversight was too labor intensive and the Select board would be hesitant about signing off on it.

b. Jeff- a year ago at town meeting, we were asked, what is the first thing the coalition would do? He suggested that perhaps representatives from serviced organizations would come to a town hall forum, meet in small groups, and report out to each other to determine (1) what organizations have that can help our town and (2) what the town can do to support the organizations. The forum was not held due to the arrival of the pandemic.

a. Reviewed proposed job description that Jeff circulated.

b. Position addresses food insecurity, abuse neglect, discrimination,

Christiane- suggested that we make better connections of existing resources. Contact at 211 with trained staff that will hear complaints and make connections with resources and solutions. Establish a resource guide listing access to resources.

Carole- investigate the roles of existing town positions, example the Town Constable. What are the roles that we have in town now, and could we alter them to best meet our current needs?

A concern was expressed about not wanting to duplicate services from other local resource providers like the Clinical Care Coordinator at Little Rivers.

Another issue is the lack of willingness to volunteer as Town Health Officer. Should it be a stipend position?

Dwayna- State resources are many, but they are not integrated. People that are already in a place of crisis need a way to access services. We need a point person, perhaps a resource navigator, referral agent, who does not provide services. Make sure the resources are visible and accessible. What are the positions in the town? Are they effective? Are they trained? Do they need to be more than volunteer positions? The town has a service officer. KellyAnn tried to call the service officer two times, left messages, and has not heard back. Jeff reported that the Service Officer currently lives with her daughter in Lebanon, NH. There is no job description for the Town Service Officer.

Use the UVCC Resource Guide, and expand on it (Christiane). The guide is effective but needs to be advanced into a procedural resource with descriptions of services and organizations: processes, flow charts, etc. What services need to be added to the guide? What resources are current being used that are not on the guide?

Action Items:

- ☐ •Viability of a Point Person or Referral Agent (not necessarily an advocate) ○ Jeff will work on this.
- ☐ •What is the role of the Town Constable? Jeff will inquire
- ☐ •Orange County Sheriff's Office, what are they providing with the town funding? Jeff will inquire
- ☐ •Make resources visible, possibly with posters.
- ☐ Refining and expanding the resource guide
Christiane and Brian will work on ideas for visibility of resources and for advancing the resource guide.

- ☐ List with functions of town positions
Carole will check with the VT League of Cities and Towns
- ☐ ▪What is the role of the Town Service Officer?
Jeff will investigate this.

UVCC Next Meeting Monday February 22 at 10:30AM.

☐ **Action Item:** Christiane will send out meeting invitation.

CCC Next Meeting (3rd Tuesday, March 16, 4PM)

Agenda to follow

Adjourn 5:07PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Andy Barter 02/16/2021