

Mayor's Council on Substance Use Prevention

Minutes

April 23, 2026

Attendance: Mandy Miranda (*Youth & Social Services*), Katie Lynch (*Youth & Social Services*), Adriana Rodriguez (*SCOW*), Alex Torres Muñoz (*Coalition for a Better Wallingford*), Dianne Mark (*Coalition for a Better Wallingford*), Jerome Foreman (*Coalition for a Better Wallingford*), Sgt Henry Cadett (*WPD*), Chief James Buck (*WFD/EMS*), Kenny Michaels (*Parks & Recreation*), Cindy Tangredi (*Wallingford Elks Club*), Ana Gopoian (*Tri Circle*), Vanessa Bautista (*Wallingford Health Dept*), Mayor Vincent Cervoni

Discussion of Direction and Format of Future Meetings:

- Scheduled meeting dates were discussed.
- The Mayor's Council discussed current Mission Statements and explored potential alternatives.
- Explored possibility of two different initiatives and suggested timing of such initiatives.
- Highlighted the importance of utilizing data in our decision-making regarding initiatives and focus of this Council.
 - Noted the importance of both Quantitative and Qualitative data.

Discussion of Potential Initiatives:

- Making Substance Use Prevention and Treatment information available and accessible to Wallingford residents:
 - Utilizing social media to share information
 - Posting In-depth Resource Directory on Town of Wallingford website home page
 - Posting QR Code that would contain a link to the Town Website and the Resource Directory
 - Printing QR Code stickers that are the size of playing or baseball cards
 - Utilizing playing/baseball cards with pertinent resource and service information in Wallingford.
 - Sgt Cadett offered to be involved with Public Outreach and Awareness with dissemination of resource information.
 - Ana Gopoian shared information on 24-7 access line and Bed Finder was discussed.
 - Mailers were discussed as possible options to get information into homes i.e. Wallingford Magazine or Parks & Recreation Seasonal Booklet. Kenny Michaels shared that we could add resource info on one page.
 - Information shared on the 1-page Resource Directory with phone numbers and websites available.
- Planning and hosting an Awareness Breakfast as a focused event to provide information and resources to provide providers with.
- Recovery Friendly Workplace Initiative for Wallingford was discussed by Ana Gopoian.
 - Ana stated that she can also have someone come to this group to provide training.

Potential Training Opportunities:

- Chief Buck discussed the importance of training and access to resource information for his staff and other public facing providers.

- CALM Conversation: Counseling on Access to lethal Means is a 90 min non-clinical presentation facilitated by Alliance for Prevention and Wellness (as an available training for the Mayor's Council)
- Mobile Crisis presentation facilitated by Wheeler Clinic staff (as an available training for the Mayor's Council).

Agency Updates that shared information specific to Substance Use and Prevention work:

- YSS: Katie Lynch, LCSW, introduced herself as the town's social worker. Katie shared some of her services that she provides including individual counseling for all ages, also recently became certified Tobacco Prevention Specialist. Mandy shared that she and Katie will be attending the clinical CALM training that is being facilitated by APW and supported by the Wallingford Schools for the School's Support Staff.
- CBWLD: Alex shared that the Coalition has reached out to larger manufacturing companies in Wallingford to provide Narcan Training. Dianne stated that the Coalition will be attending the Drug Take Back Day on Saturday April 25th at the Wallingford Police Department.
- WPD: Sgt Cadett provided information on the Community Impact Unit. He provided some background information on what is legally considered paraphernalia.
- Health Dept: Vanessa Bautista shared update on Credible Mind website, regarding future funding.

Plan for Next Meeting June 4th, Thursday 11:30-12:30p in Town Hall, Room 315:

- The Coalition for a Better Wallingford will bring data on prevalence of overdose (fatal and non-fatal) and substance use trends to the next meeting.
- Members will review the current Mission Statement and bring any changes or new language to meeting.
- Mandy Miranda will contact Program Planning Office to add the Resource Directory Guide and 1-Page Resource Directory to Home page of Town Website.