



## BILLERICA SUBSTANCE AWARENESS COMMITTEE

Town Hall  
365 Boston Road Billerica, MA 01821  
978-671-0962  
978-670-9448 Fax

Dina M Favreau, *Chair*

Darlene Torre  
Joanne Barry  
Daniel Darris-O'Connor  
John F Gray Jr  
Mike Higgins

John Kleschinsky  
Erik Szymanski  
Bernie McCann  
Angela Caira

### Billerica Substance Awareness Committee

#### Minutes

July 10, 2024 5:00pm

Hybrid

Videoed by BATV

Can be Viewed: <https://www.batvinc.org/vodchannels.html>

RECEIVED  
2025 JAN -9 P 2:17  
TOWN CLERK  
BILLERICA

Meeting was brought to order by D Favreau @ 5:13pm with a quorum present.

Vacancies....there is 1 vacancy through the Board of Health

Minutes...Motion to accept the May minutes made by Angela and seconded by Joanne. Vote taken 6 to 1. Daniel did not get a copy of the minutes & that is the reason he voted no.

Treasurers Report...John sent a copy to all members. There is \$23,000 of total funding & \$20,000 in grant money. Motion to accept the Treasurers report was made by Daniel. Amended motion made by Darlene to accept the Treasurers report with exact figures of \$23,964.94 in the Town share acct ending in 954 and \$20,000 of grant money in acct ending in 191. Total = \$43,964.94. Amended motion seconded by Daniel. All members voted yes.

Opioid Figures....No Update. The Chair is aware of 1 fatality over the 4th of July holiday. Family is known to Dina personally. There is usually a spike over the summer months & holidays. Dina has been in contact with M Higgins for past 2 days helping a family in crisis.

Opioid Abatement Funds....The Chair has received a copy of the draft report. Good comprehensive plan that needs to be buttoned up over the next 2 weeks. Will be voted on at next months meeting. Need to work on the warrant articles for appropriation of funds to be drafted for Town Meeting so that program can be funded. Things will start moving pretty fast. Currently there is \$453,000 in settlement funding. Some survey info includes where we are at as a Town. On certain items we are outpacing the County and in some areas we are outpacing the State with our emergency response & the number of people impacted. Survey was eye opening as we have heard that numbers are down. There were 1095 responses received which is great public feedback. Darlene...happy with the response number. Previous surveys sent out by this committee and others were not as well received as this one. Mike...curious about sub-committee meetings to which Dina indicated that they have not happened yet. Landscape analysis was hired via the Town Managers office. As soon as final report is ready it will be sent to all via the Chair. Daniel...questioned the drafting of the warrant

articles to which Dina indicated that it will be gone over by the committee. Joanne....was able to Zoom in on the most recent listening session. Thanks to all for their support.

Well Hub App ....Dina has reached out to Rob from Dynamic Consultants regarding Well Hub presentation but has not heard back yet. Members who requested the presentation are not present so this will be tabled until next month. .

New Speaker presentation....Dina has been helping a family so she has not had a chance to connect with the speaker mentioned last month; Just A Kid With An IEP.

Supplies....need to have Mike Higgins present to discuss further. All of our supplies were moved out of the closet during remodeling but not sure where it was all put. Dina will come to Town Hall and look around for the BSAC items and once found put them in an assigned spot. Should we set aside a line item in the budget for supplies now or wait? Joanne...feels that we should put it on the budget. If we don't use it fine but at least we will have an idea on what we can spend. Yankee Doodle funds have already been budgeted for. Dina...mentioned upcoming events where supplies will be needed are Summer Block Party on 7/28, National Night Out & Back to School Night.

Motion made by Joanne to put a limit of \$2000 to order supplies for upcoming events. They will not go to waste. Darlene...\$2000 sounds like alot but with the cost of everything being so high it may not be enough.

Dina...agrees with Darlene and mentioned that the Summer Block Party is also called Christmas in July.

Amended motion made by Darlene to have \$3000 set aside for supplies and seconded by Joanne.

Daniel...questioned what supplies are being purchased to which he was told things to hand out at the events like pens, chip clips, chargers, chapstick etc. (things with our logo on it). Vote taken with all members voting yes.

Grant Opportunities....Erik sent an email. He is working on 2 other grants. He will put focus on that in the next 2 weeks so the info will be available at the next meeting.

Summer Block Party 7/28 from 11-2...resource table at VVP where the event will be held. Looking for volunteers. Set up @ 10:00. John may be able to come by but is not sure. Daniel...asked for clarification on what the event is about. Dina...Billerica Recreation has invited all Town resources to set up info tables. Will be similar to the Spring Fling event that Angela worked on at Shawsheen Tech. Dan V(?)....said that he may be able to help along with his wife & daughter. However he was concerned about not knowing the answer to some questions if someone asks. Darlene...may be able to help if no one objects to her doing a group type table as she will also be there on behalf of other committees. Dina...hopeful that we can have volunteers but feels it is a good idea to have the tables near each other.

Darlene...would like the topic of Narcan distribution on the next months agenda. Other towns such as Lowell, Acton & Braintree have Narcan available at their Board of Health for residents to pick up if needed. Does our Town distribute Narcan? Dina...not aware that we have that type of program in place as she gets Narcan if needed from M Higgins. Feels that we do need a Narcan program in place. If our BOH has Narcan available it will be more accessible to our residents in need. Narcan technology has advanced so it is easier to administer. Joanne...great suggestion. Better for it to be available in 2 areas (BOH & M Higgins).

Motion made by Joanne to move forward with having Narcan available via Board of Health and seconded by John. All members voting yes.

Motion to adjourn made by Darlene & seconded by Joanne. All members voting yes.

Meeting adjourned at 6:03pm.

Edit: In attendance were D Favreau, D Darris-O'Connor, J Barry (via Zoom), A Caira (via Zoom), E Szymanski (via Zoom), J Gray (via Zoom)