

TOWN OF SHARON, VT

Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee (OSAC) Meeting

15 School Street, Sharon, VT 05065

Thursday, September 19, 2024, 5:15 pm

Town Offices' Conference Room

MEETING AGENDA

1. Call meeting to order – Deb, Dee, Eileen, Ella. Called to order at 5:26.
2. Review/Approve agenda.
3. Approve minutes from Aug. 21, 2024 meeting. Motion to approve by Deb, 2nd Eileen.
Approved.

UPDATES

4. Backpacks update – Eileen met with Shana and Dena. Ten backpacks are gone. 24 backpacks not on sale for \$126. Thought about not putting Narcan in all backpacks, just stock the shelf at the foodshelf with Narcan. Mary Stoddard will be invited to next meeting. Deb will do the procurement from the Opioid \$. Just got another \$1,600, so the balance is over \$9,000. Eileen will send a wish list to Deb to order. Half sheets of resources that can be laminated and put in backpacks. Dena has a list of items for the backpacks. Next meeting is next Wednesday (meets 2nd & 4th Wednesdays). Grant has been received for the community lunches at SHI. If people need help, what is the best initial way to reach out to offer help? Ella thinks being direct is best: “What services do you need?” Could there be signs saying: “if you don’t see what you need?” Can items be stocked at the food shelf? Deb: have a meeting to familiarize ourselves with the service organizations – open to the public, or just volunteers in town. De-escalation training, too? Could we provide info for the State Police social service/mental health coordinator for Dena to call. Deb may help coordinate training with Nicola. Panic button at library installed. Might go to the Hartford barracks and gets dispatched. Once supplies are ordered, we will have a backpack stuffing party.
5. OSAC participation in Selectboard Informational Hearing about retail cannabis Mon., Oct 7, 2024 at 6pm at Steele Chapel in preparation for vote by Australian ballot on Tues. Oct. 15, 2024 7am-7pm. Will have Ella on hand to answer hard questions. Our committee can help set up the room. To get any revenue from cannabis sales in Sharon, town would have to a sales and use tax. Would apply to 13 businesses in town, not just retail cannabis. 14% excise tax on cannabis funds prevention initiatives.
6. Funding SHI for a portion of Dena’s time re client services and/or trainings. Eileen will let Dena know that funding is available for substance use disorder trainings.

7. Library need for community member support for social services. Shana wanted to recognize what volunteer and staff limits are and to help people connect with appropriate services.

9. Training ideas/opportunities

a. De-escalation training with evidenced-based practices.

b. Life Skills Training with a focus on social/emotional learning.

10. Narcan distribution box placement – wait on results of Town of Hartford discussion and vote on a harm reduction vending machine outside of the Good Neighbor Clinic.

11. Resource binders – tabled for now. Ella will provide some resources on October 7.

NEW BUSINESS

12. Health and Wellness survey request from Selectboard to OSAC as subcommittee. Carol Langstaff developed a survey to determine where there were overlaps and/or gaps in services to Sharon residents and to apply accountability and collaboration. What are the needs in Sharon and how are the organizations meeting them? We would like to clarify the objective of the survey, but worry the survey is too long and may make more work for Dena.

13. Schedule Next Meeting – Tuesday, October 22nd at 5:15 pm in the Town Office.

14. Adjourned at 6:56 pm

Contact Deb Jones, Facilitator, at treasurer@sharonvt.net or 802-763-8268 x3