

Wayland Cares Review Committee - minutes for Oct 2nd, 2013, Selectman's MtgRm

Called to order at 4:01, Meeting to be recorded by video

In Attendance: Gail Shapiro, Leslie Corner, Shirley Jacobson, Katie Lee

- Accepting the minutes of 8/05, 9/12 – all in favor
- Schedule details: Next meetings:

Oct 16th 7-8:30pm with representatives of town departments, organizations invited

Oct 30th 6-7pm – drafts of report sections reviewed

Nov 4th (no meeting) reports due to be submitted to the committee chairperson

Nov 6th 6-7pm assembled and finished by that time

Presentation to the Selectmen late November TBA

Summary of discussions – From what committee members have found from most interviews w various town stakeholders, the value of the WaylandCares program is not in question. Contacts seem to be nearly unanimous in feeling like town support of the program should continue in some way, with the exception of those who voted against the article at Town Meeting. For them, accountability – financially especially – seems to be the most important concern, as well as that WaylandCares not become a separate Town Department reporting directly to the Town Administrator.

- Somehow having WaylandCares affiliated or housed under an existing town department may satisfy those who were concerned about how grant money was spent (was it too much on salaries vs. educational events?)

Send out Invitation to next meeting to: Dr. Paul Stein, School Committee, Board of Health, Police Department, Wayland Youth and Family Services, Youth Advisory Committee, Finance Committee (liaison is Nancy Funkhouser), Personnel Board liaison

Which may say: “Given that Wayland Cares’ funding was voted down at the town meeting and it now has no grant funds to support its operations, would your organization or department provide direct financial support to Wayland Cares? Would your department or organization be willing to be a partner/ be the administrative overseer for WaylandCares' operations and

finances? If not, what other support role/ action could your department take to support the aims of WaylandCares - financially, administratively, etc?

Your input is essential to this assessment. Please send one or more representatives to answer this important question for this committee. We greatly appreciate your participation at relatively short notice.”

Ideas discussed amongst the committee members present:

-- Gail: could WaylandCares be a line item in the school budget? We think their draft budget is due in less than a week?

--Leslie and Shirley - need to emphasize support of the positive work that has been done that people want to continue – focus on goal of accomplishing this somehow for the town

--Gail: we need to look at WaylandCares in light of other priorities: Townwide, in the School Department, within the school’s own Health Ed department. Priorities for budgets?“firefighter vs. substance abuse prevention administrator” is how some citizens look at it

--Leslie: Would it be able to be slid over within town overall budget from one area to another? (we can ask FinCom rep)

- Gail outlines main sections of our report:
 1. Who we are (identification and professional qualifications)
 2. How we approached our work
 3. Input we sought from Town Boards, Committees, officials, citizens, and other communities doing similar work
 4. Looking at the questions posed by the Selectmen, divide into two main sections: Effectiveness of program and Administration and funding of program
 5. Our conclusions and recommendations

Re: Question Four:

A. Katie/would have been Bill) Is the program following known best practices for this field? Is it in line or out of line with what other towns are doing? Is it run cost effectively from what we can see?

B. Community concerns that led to the down vote for town funding for WaylandCares and the formation of our review committee: why did it get voted down? salaries of the directors?, misleading information in WaylandCares' communications, e.g. "nonprofit organization" 501(c)(3) vs. "not-for-profit" correct nomenclature, promoting a message of looking out for needs of the organization versus needs of the community, "communications director"?others?

C. How could/should WaylandCares be funded? Taxpayer dollars to fund operations vs. 501c3 – past review committee did not spend a lot of time discussing this issue. Would METCO type organization model be good? Where they can be affiliated with the School? Separate organization that collaborates with the school like Wayland Boosters? Would having WaylandCares being situated under the School Department take away from its Public Health mission? Committee members agree that the student and community health issues are very interrelated on many levels.

Meeting adjourned at 5:05pm.

Respectfully submitted by Katie Lee