

**Town of Enfield
Community Nursing Committee
Meeting Minutes - February 7, 2024**

TIME: 5:30pm

Location: DPW Facility (and via Teams)

PRESENT

Community Nursing Committee: Affrille Degoma, Stephen Powell, Cynthia Loring, Parker Hinshaw, Sheila Bessette, Dawna Pidgeon; Emily Curtis, Public Safety Administrative Coordinator

Administrative Staff: Ed Morris, Town Manager

Members of the Public: Sarah Copps, Dave Beaufait

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Curtis called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Introductions

Mr. Morris reviewed highlights of the 91-A laws that apply to committees and meeting decorum.

Organization of the Board

Steve made a motion to appoint Affrille as the chair of the committee. Cindy seconded. Vote unanimous in favor of the motion (7-0).

Cindy made a motion to appoint Parker as the Vice Chair of the committee. Steve seconded. Vote unanimous in favor of the motion (7-0).

Emily made a motion to elect Sheila as the secretary. Affrille seconded. Vote unanimous in favor of the motion (6-0).

Other Business

Emily provided an overview of the efforts from the previous committee, which included four of the current committee members, who carried out the project through December 2023. She noted that while there are many towns with community nurses, they are not set up in the same way in every town. She stated that some community nurses are in place by creating an independent 501 (c) 3, some are run by a local church, and others have formal employment through the towns which they serve.

Emily reported that the RN's and Paramedic have met with the Enfield Town departments to discuss the new Community Nursing service. In January there were 6 new referrals that were followed up with a phone call.

There was some discussion about deciding on subcommittees or work groups that will focus on our primary responsibilities: fundraising, program evaluation, and outreach to the community.

Members of the committee discussed the development of agendas for each meeting.

Cindy suggested that we might devise a standard agenda that includes the topics that need to be addressed at each meeting.

Public Comment

Sarah Copps stated that she and her husband are interested in being involved, and she has extensive experience with area agencies that would be beneficial to coordinate with. She stated that there are many local resources to consider connecting with, including the Aging in Hartland Program and the Upper Valley Senior Center.

Dave Beaufait stated that he is a retired primary care physician, and he is interested in things in our community and the broader community as well. He recommended a point of contact who may be able to identify some of the overlapping needs and could prove to be a resource.

Steve inquired if the committee might be able to have a table at Town Meeting

Mr. Morris stated that the town moderator, Lindsay Smith, would be the one to determine.

It was determined that Steve would reach out to Lindsay and report to Emily. Emily would reach out to the Lebanon nurses and report back to Affrille to confirm.

Providing the committee is able to get permission to have a table, Cindy volunteered to help Steve with the Community Nurse information table the morning of Town Meeting on March 16th from 8-9am. Emily noted she would bring handouts for the table.

Mr. Beaufait stated that there may be similar needs for Community Nursing in Canaan and opportunities to connect with people from neighboring towns which should be considered.

It was decided that going forward the committee meetings will occur on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 5:30pm at the DPW.

Next Meeting - March 20th, 5:30pm at the DPW.

Adjournment

Emily made a motion to adjourn at 6:30pm. Steve seconded. Vote unanimous in favor of the motion (7-0).

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm.