

Cape Cod Hoarding Task Force

Executive Committee Meeting

Monday, January 23, 2017

10:30 AM – 12 PM

RDO Lower Conference Room

Barnstable County Complex

3195 Main Street

Barnstable, MA 02630

Attendance: Erika Woods, BCDHE; Lynn Mulkeen, BCDHE; Deborah Scavotto, Smooth Moving for Seniors; Kalliope Egloff, Cape Cod Cooperative Extension; Lori Miranda, Dennis Animal Control; Kevin Grunwald, Harwich COA; Ali Gerry, BCDHE; Paul Wild, Elder Services of Cape Cod

Meeting Minutes:

Creation of a 2017 meeting schedule:

2017 meeting schedule for the Executive Committee was planned for every fourth Monday of every other month –

March 27

May 22

July 24

September 25

November 22

January 22, 2018

Restructuring of the CCHTF Executive Committee:

Chair: Erika Woods

Co-chair: Kevin Grunwald

Secretary: Ali Gerry

Motions were made and all were in favor.

Discussion regarding working groups for the CCHTF:

I. Volunteers for direct services

Deb – Update on the efforts to create a process for the support of BIT graduates upon completion of the program. She explained that grant money is limited and hands-on volunteering can be challenging and “tricky.” As an example: in the past college students have volunteered services but it was less than effective; their motivation to clean-up has the tendency to surpass that of the individual receiving the service.

Kalliope – Described a more effective service might be a peer group similar to AA and other 12-step sponsor programs. The importance of forming a bond between graduates of BIT and those currently in the program, again, a sponsor-type relationship was discussed.

Kevin – Introduced Clutters Anonymous and their possible attendance at the general meeting on February 2 to discuss what they offer and their approach to recovery. Currently there is only one group on Cape Cod, in Harwich, however, they are looking to grow as a group.

Everyone on the committee expressed concern about the liability of introducing graduates of BIT to current members as a sponsors.

Lori – Asked who would background check potential sponsors? Not everyone on the committee would be able to access the information from a CORI.

Committee agreed referring people to Clutters Anonymous (CLA) as a resource for recovery would be the best option as of today's (January 23, 2017) meeting. It was not necessary to make a motion on working with the group and it was agreed that following their future appearance at the general meeting on February 2, 2017 there would be further discussion on involvement.

Deb – Offered to send out information on CLA to other Senior Move managers to assess sentiments and gather additional information on the group.

Kalliope – Asked whether they/ or anyone offered Al-Anon style meetings for the families of hoarders.

II. Community Film Event

Discussion of different community film event for the general public. Options included: a viewing of a documentary style film with educational value and a public awareness campaign.

Deb – Spoke to a film student out in California about making a film for her senior project but this option would be years in the making. As a timelier option, she mentioned the documentary "Packrat" as a potential film for the community event. Her thoughts on the documentary were that it was just OK. She requested if everyone could watch it for themselves and provide feedback as well as research some other options.

Erika – Brought grant funding to attention to help with both trainings and community engagement events. She said we are interested in applying for a small grant from Cape Cod Healthcare.

Kalliope – Discussed her idea of a film challenge for film students in the area. She thought participants could create a PSA on hoarding and the CCHTF describing who we are, what hoarding is and what resources we offer. Filmmakers can submit their projects and the public can vote for their favorite submission, ballot style. This would be a resume building opportunity for the filmmakers and an interactive approach to get the public involved in the discussion surrounding hoarding. She suggested setting a future date of Spring, 2018 for the event and then back tracking in order to send out information to the public and build stakeholders and interested parties.

Kalliope, Deb and Lori are part of the working group for the development of this project.

Paul – Motioned to create a public awareness working group. All were in favor.

Kalliope - Requested to be included on the agenda for the February 2 general meeting to discuss the public awareness working group and garner volunteer support from the public.

III. CCHTF Branding and Messaging

Erika – Asked the committee if everyone was on the same page regarding the intent of the task force's brand as collaboration and support. Everyone agreed. She brought up past discussions on a name change and hesitation to change the name.

Everyone agreed that the name should not be changed and that the group and its goals are well-established enough to not require a name change. The “education – collaboration – support” within the logo was effective enough to get the group’s message across to the public.

Kalliope – Suggested moving “education – collaboration – support” from the side of the logo to underneath. Everyone agreed with this change.

Expectations for a two-year plan:

Erika – Briefly talked about goals to have more involvement with CLA, more community events and to stay on track with trainings.

Deb – Expressed the importance of having a smaller community event while working on the larger PSA/Public Awareness event.

Kevin – Offered the idea of a panel with BIT graduates discussing their stories and addressing stigma surrounding hoarding.

Erika – Asked if this should be one event or if this smaller type of event should be offered across the cape to be more accessible for more people.

Everyone agreed the effective approach would be to offer a panel event in two locations. This created a discussion on possible venues –

Selectmen Room, Mashpee
Mashpee High School
Wellfleet Senior Center
Selectmen Room, Chatham
Harwich Community Center
Council of Aging, Orleans

Lori – Suggested a mixed panel to include more than just BIT graduates for a range of perspective.

Deb – Offered to contact point for any leads and correspondence for persons on panel.

Kalliope – Suggested that the event be recorded; county IT department might be able.

Paul – Motioned to create a subcommittee; all were in favor. This will be the same working group developing the PSA film challenge.

Erika – Brought the discussion to grant funding again. Discussed its contribution to community events which lead to a discussion on inviting the public to the level 2 training offered by Jesse.

Paul – Thought the level 2 training would be a good opportunity to provide a template for municipalities. Providing local authorities with the information to properly handle a hoarding situation; what they need to know, what they need to do. This is a long term goal.

Kalliope – Mentioned the Explosive and High Reactive Chemicals Training she is planning for May 18. She thought the attendees for this training would benefit from a brief presentation from the CCHTF. Attendees often include: DPW workers, fire workers, Servepro, a variety of both public and private that typically assist with hoarding cases. It costs \$25 to attend but would provide CCHTF with an opportunity to gather information and reach a specific audience. Paul said that he would help with this event; being the contact for the committee at the training.

Meeting adjourned at 12:20 PM.

Next meeting: March 27 either in RDO Lower Conference Room or Innovation Room.