



Town of Brewster

Health and Human Services Committee

2198 Main St., Brewster, MA 02631
(508) 896-3701

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

2198 Main Street

Tuesday, October 3, 2023 @ 5:00 p.m.

Health and Human Service Committee Members

Suzanne Kenney
Chair

Sean Parker
Vice Chair

Lisa Perkins
Secretary

Deborah Blackman
Jacobs

Patricia Hess

Mary Jo Murphy

Anne O'Connell

This meeting will be conducted in person at the time and location identified above. This means that at least a quorum of the members of the public body will attend the meeting in person and members of the public are welcome to attend in person as well. **As a courtesy only, access to the meeting is also being provided via remote means in accordance with applicable law. Please note that while an option for remote attendance and/or participation is being provided as a courtesy to the public, the meeting/hearing will not be suspended or terminated if technological problems interrupt the virtual broadcast or affect remote attendance or participation, unless otherwise required by law.** Members of the public with particular interest in any specific item on this agenda, which includes an applicant and its representatives, should make plans for in-person vs. virtual attendance accordingly.

Members of the public who wish to access the meeting may do so in the following manner:

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87354818467?pwd=ZzNCNXJuTGgxTFVUT0k3cUNNTFRUdz09>

Passcode: 027724

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Webinar ID: 873 5481 8467

To request to speak: Tap Zoom "Raise Hand", then wait to be recognized.

When required by law or allowed by the Chair, persons wishing to provide public comment or otherwise participate in the meeting, may do so by accessing the meeting remotely, as noted above. Additionally, the meeting will be broadcast live, in real time, via **Live broadcast** (Brewster Government TV Channel 18), **Livestream** (livestream.brewster-ma.gov), or **Video recording** (tv.brewster-ma.gov).

Please note that the Health and Human Services Committee may take official action, including votes, on any item on this agenda.

1. Call to Order
2. Declaration of a Quorum
3. Meeting Participation Statement
4. Recording Statement: As required by the Open Meeting Law we are informing you that the Town will be video and audio taping as well as broadcasting this public meeting. In addition, if anyone else intends to either video or audio tape this meeting they are required to inform the chair.
5. Approval of September 6, 2023 Minutes
6. Review of Data Form for Grantees FY'25
7. Presentation by Outer Cape Health
8. Presentation by Homeless Prevention Council
9. Matters Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair
10. Next Meetings: November 1, 2023
11. Adjournment

Date Posted:

Date Revised:

Received by Town Clerk:



Town of Brewster Health and Human Services Committee

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(508) 896-3701

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

2198 Main Street
Wednesday, September 6, 2023 @ 5:00 p.m.

Present: Suzanne Kenney, Sean Parker, Mary Jo Murphy, Deborah Blackman Jacobs, Patricia Hess, Anne O'Connell, Conor Kenny (town liaison)

Absent: Lisa Perkins, Kari Hoffman (Select Board Liaison)

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:00.
2. Declaration of a Quorum: A quorum was declared.
3. Meeting Participation Statement was read by the Chair.
4. Recording Statement was read by the Chair.
5. Approval of August 9, 2023 Minutes:

Approved: unanimous

6. Review of Last Year's Grant Recipients and Their Impact on Brewster Residents

A discussion was held regarding how funded non-profits do or don't account for how many Brewster residents are served. Ultimately it was determined several factors will be taken into consideration when determining funding requests. Examples include multiservice service agencies vs. overnight services which are more expensive. It was suggested by Anne O'Connell we develop a standard report for all agencies. Conor Kenny is working on a form for the agencies to help them define the impact they have on Brewster residents by stating numbers served and how they define the cost of services.

7. Presentation by Police Department

Chief Eldredge was introduced by Suzanne Kenney. She asked the Chief to address challenges the town faces where social services may be needed. If so, which organizations do they find most helpful in the work they are doing.

While responding to a call, whether it be a medical or a police issue, police may observe a situation which can result in police wanting to connect people with resources from a social service agency.

Gosnold is a frequently used resource, as they offer wraparound services. Also, a representative from both the police and Gosnold visit the person who suffered the nonfatal overdose a few days later to discuss possible next steps.

Both Bay Cove and Outer Cape Health Services are frequently used organizations that respond with mental health outreach services.

When officers observe housing instability or food instability, they reach out to Homeless Prevention Council, Lower Cape Outreach, and the Family Food Pantry in Harwich.

Police also have a “Wellness” program where about 25 people call in to the police each day by 10:00 am. If the police haven’t heard from the individual, they send a cruiser by to check on the person.

A question was asked about drug usage and Chief Eldredge responded Brewster does not have the issues confronting other towns on the Cape. Occasionally they respond to people who have overdosed on edibles.

The number of domestic abuse calls, while not high, often goes in waves and can sometimes be the same parties. In these instances, they may be connected to Independence House or the individual may receive assistance navigating the court system for a restraining order.

Warrants are the number one call coming in followed by Operating Under the Influence and domestic abuse. On a positive note, OUI’s are down most likely from ride shares, like UBER.

Breaking and entering is less frequent than previously reported, most likely because of an increase in security cameras.

For the past few years, the police have provided a week of a youth police academy at the end of the summer.

8. Agency Presentation – Nauset Youth Alliance

David Roth, Director of Nauset Youth Alliance presented an overview of the agency. NYA is the afterschool and summer enrichment program for the children of Brewster serving children ages 5-12. The program this year serves 48% of Brewster students serving over 60 students in each school. They can support some children through vouchers and others receive help from Lower Cape Outreach and the Ellie Snow Scholarship fund. The number of children attending has increased 10% over last year, and they now have a waiting list.

Hiring staff can be challenging because it is part time work. Salaries have increased over the past few years to the \$21-\$26 range and staff are now paid for holidays. They provide enrichment program including karate, crafts, gymnastics and elements of science.

9. Matters Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair

Items for Future Meetings:

We agreed to ask the Fire Department to speak to HHS, after funding decisions have been made. It was recommended by Sean Parker that we invite Bay Cove to present their program, since Chief Eldredge said they work with the program frequently. Their presenting is contingent on whether they will apply for funding. Conor is reaching out to them to gauge interest. Anne suggested we bring in Nauset Together We Can sooner rather than later. If the previous agencies do not present, we will invite the Alzheimer's Family Foundation and Cape Cod Children's Place to present.

10. Next Meetings: October 4, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. *

11. Adjournment was at 6:05.

- This has subsequently changed to October 3 at 5:00

Date Posted:

Date Revised:

Received by Town Clerk:

Town of Brewster
Health and Human Service Committee
Data Form

Agency Requesting Grant:

Amount Requested:

Date:

of Brewster Residents Served Per Year (specify unduplicated or duplicated and for period served):

Services Provided (per Grant Request) and Cost Per Service Breakdown (per person and/or per unit served):