



# City of Bristol

BRISTOL, CONNECTICUT 06010

**MINUTES OF THE  
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
MAYOR'S OPIOID TASK FORCE  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
MARCH 11, 2019  
6:30 p.m.**

**ATTENDEES:**

Mayor Ellen Zoppo-Sassu  
Councilwoman Mary Fortier  
Ana Gopian  
Jeff Quamme  
Laura Lewis  
Eileen McNulty  
Sandra Kamens  
Erica Baloga  
Courtney Pope  
Marco Palmeri  
Marcia Dufore  
Victor Gotteimer  
Brien Laforge  
Cynthia Petronio-Vasquez  
Lisa Coates  
Jason Bannon  
Police Chief, Brian Gould  
Noelle Bates – Recording Secretary

**ITEM #1 – CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS OF MEMBERS**

Mayor Zoppo-Sassu opened up the meeting at 6:30 p.m. She welcomed the members and the members introduced themselves.

**ITEM #2 – ACCEPTANCE OF FEBRUARY 2019 MINUTES**

A Motion was made and seconded. Motion passed.

**ITEM #3 – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mayor Zoppo-Sassu explained that Public Participation is on all City Hall agendas, but this forum is a free flowing meeting and participation will be conducted throughout the meeting.

**ITEM #4 – PRESENTATION: “ APPLICATION FOR RECOVERY FRIENDLY COMMUNITY” MARCIA DUFORE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL MENTAL HEALTH BOARD AND LISA COATES, BRISTIOL HOSPITAL**

Marcia Dufore introduced herself to the Committee and asked the members of the Committee who were more familiar with the City of Danbury’s website to conduct the Recovery Friendly Community presentation as she was present to assist with the grant process.

Ana Gopoian, from Tri Circle addressed the Committee and presented The City of Danbury’s video on their website regarding Recovery Friendly Communities. The City of Bristol’s website was then reviewed and discussion was conducted on ways to improve it. The Mayor stated that the City can put together a similar video presentation with the assistance of Nutmeg TV for their website.

Ana then passed out the revised guidelines for Establishing a Recovery Friendly Community from the CT Alcohol and Drug Policy Council/Recovery Health Management Sub-Committee. The Committee discussed each line item to see what deliverables have already been attained and what still needs to be accomplished.

**ITEM #5 – ACTION ITEMS**

**- BEST FOR BRISTOL GRANT UPDATE**

Eileen McNulty stated the most of the deliverables for the grant were discussed during the Recovery Friendly Community presentation. Her office is working on putting packages together to be delivered to pediatricians in town. They are also working on another PSA through AMP Radio and prescription drug monitoring. A Narcan training session was just held prior to this meeting. Sarah Larson is also working on questions to ask your doctor about opioid prescriptions.

**- TOBACCO 21 PROPOSAL**

Marco Palmeri, Health Director stated that the City is waiting to see whether the State passes a law on this before going through the motions of creating a local ordinance.

**- VAPING PRODUCTS AND LETTER TO BUSINESSES**

Mayor Zoppo-Sassu stated her letter has gone out to all business selling the vaping products and received no responses. She will continue to update the Committee if she receives any feedback.

**- RECOVERY FRIENDLY COMMUNITY PROFILE**

Marcia Defore talked about the new STAR grant application coming out, which she has convinced DEMS not to list the same deliverables as the previous grant. Recovery Friendly Communities will be one of the deliverables along with Narcan Training combined with suicide prevention training. Bristol is in a great position for the grant as we have almost completed the

deliverables for the Recovery Friendly Community. Lisa Coates from Bristol Hospital stated that she would like to take the lead on the suicide prevention training as this is her field of expertise.

**ITEM #6 – NEW BUSINESS**  
**- BY MEMBERS**

Brien Laforge discussed the difficulties in tracking data without comprehensive software. He is working on putting a map together of where EMS is finding drug related problems.

Lisa Coates informed the Committee that Bristol Hospital will be conducting an April Grand Rounds which will be discussing “The Opioid Epidemic: Exploring Our Effectiveness”. The event will take place on Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:45 p.m.

**ITEM # 7 – ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

**The next meeting will be held on THURSDAY, APRIL 18<sup>TH</sup> at 6:30 – FIRST FLOOR MEETING ROOM.**

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Mayor Zoppo-Sassu, Chairwoman  
Mayor’s Opioid Task Force