Call to Order at 4:35pm; Confirming Member Access; Introduction to Remote Meeting; Meeting Ground Rules

- **Members Present:** Kerin Delaney (Co-Chair), Larry Langer (Co-Chair), Barbara Sullivan, Suzie Hauptmann (Director), Susan Clondas (Admin); Deb Berglin; Milene Chioatto; Ellen O’Donnell; Johnny Hatem
- **Members Excused:** Sharon Sodekson
- **Guests Present:** Nancy Taylor/BOS; Melanie Braverman; Justin Shannahan/IT Support; Peter Clark

**Agency Highlights:** Alzheimer Family Support Center – Melanie Braverman and Molly Perdue

- 3/13/20 they stopped in service and did a quick pivot to online delivery of services
- Early stage was spent getting families connected through Zoom and creating emergency plans in case Caregivers needed to go to the hospital
- Held over 60 online groups with approximately 46 attendees (due to ease of online they have had more attendees than in past onsite groups). Will be continuing with online groups even after reopening to onsite groups.
- 1,200 people attended the virtual conference; 800 people viewed recorded event
- Serving about 2,000 people a month; referrals come from: Neurologists, Elder Services, Medical practices, COA’s, self-referral; and concerned friends.
- Have been focusing a lot on outreach due to added isolation which is an accelerant of decline; increased phone support and contacted anyone who used service in last few years
- Received Falmouth Cultural Council grant to work with a group of volunteers who made weighted blankets; also, their volunteer project of cards for staff and residents of long-term care facilities was very successful.
- Sent out over 8,000 appeal letters for funding request
- Have approximately 5,000 subscribers on their email list that they communicate to daily
- Have been doing a lot of SHINE/insurance work and help in signing up for vaccines

**Charter Review Committee:** Peter Clark

- Explained the difference between “Elected Committees” and “Appointed Committees”
- Discussed history of how the Human Services Committee became an appointed arm of the Select board as an advisory committee in 1991
- Due to advisory status and separate financial transactions a warrant is being put forward to remove the Human Services Committee from the Town Charter; Vote goes to Town Meeting in May 2021
- The Appointment Process for new members of the Committee will remain the same
Approved February 2, 2021 Minutes: Barbara Sullivan made a motion to approve corrected minutes for posting; Milene seconded and the Committee was all in favor

Director’s Report – Suzie Hauptmann gave an update on the department’s February 2021 activities.

- Still fielding many, many calls of folks looking for counseling services. Offering services when we can – after it becomes clear that it’s not available elsewhere. Trying our best to connect folks to services. Doing a lot of consultation with residents.
- Current groups:
  - Mark Abbott’s meditation group
  - Senior men’s group
  - Senior women’s group
  - Liz Rodgers’ adolescent girls’ group
- Continued limited in person work with clients and residents.
- Season of Change: Coping During Covid – Over 160 attendees. Feedback was very positive
- SH attended a data review with BTEO and some County staff re: the numbers of homeless in Falmouth. As a part of BTEO’s strategic planning. Last year’s Point in Time Count in Falmouth was 4. Greater needs are in the area of Transitional/supported housing.
- Sue Clondas continued to work on website improvements – we will close down our other site in 6 months. Will have a banner to direct people to the new site. We won’t be adding new content to the old site.
- MTG with Falmouth EDIC, Joe-4-Sun, FSC – 250 residents who qualify for MA Health, SNAP, free/reduced lunch – eligible for energy rebate program through Citizen’s Energy.
- Marks building – moving forward. Joint mtg coming up between the Historical Committee, Marks Building Committee, Planning Dept, Julian, Peter, BOS member, and architect to go over the final plans to be submitted to State
- Petitioner’s article – Sandra Faiman Silva contacted me re: Article 33 and I shared info on the Outmigration funds/contracts. $75K request for childcare vouchers for Falmouth residents

Old Business:

- Strategic review process for Mental Health and Substance Use surveys- Local Provider survey will be going out next week. Letter and flyer will be used for promotion through email lists, direct mailings and social media posts

New Business:

- FY22 Town funding – Request for proposals applications and legal ads were sent to Falmouth Enterprise and Cape Cod Times for the categories of Mental Health $20,000; Substance Use $20,00 and General Support Services for $9,500 and posted to websites last week

Committee member updates and reports:
• Kerin Delaney – Announced a new vocational training funds for health care workers for Falmouth residents. Will be sending around promotional flyer.

• Ellen O’Donnell – ASGCC, starting on 3/11/21 will be hosting a virtual drop-in support group twice a month (2nd & 4th Thursdays from 4-5pm) for those who use stimulants. “Common Thread” is a free and confidential drop-in group based on the harm reduction model. Attendees define their own recovery and abstinence is not a requirement. There is no paperwork, just contact them and they will provide link. groups@asgcc.org or 774-763-6656. They are also in the planning stages for Van Services with new trained employees for late spring.

• Deb Berglin – Announced the two upcoming workshops on marijuana sponsored by Boston University School of Social Work, Falmouth Commission Substance Use and Gosnold were held. 112 people signed up and ended up having 77 attendees; Parent workshop was poorly attended with only 3 teachers and 2 parents. BU is in the final process of student placements for the fall.

**Items for future agenda:**

• Inviting local agencies to provide updates via Zoom at next meeting. Suzie Hauptmann will reach out to YMCA.

• Milene Chioatto – Raised a question of the need for interpreter services and if more funds could be useful in this category. Committee members were in agreement that this is an important issue to look into.

**Adjourn:** Kerin Delaney made a motion to adjourn at 6:00 pm; Larry Langer seconded; Committee members were all in favor

Next meeting: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 4:30-6:00pm

Respectfully submitted by: Susan Clondas