

**Town of Marshfield Drug Task Force Meeting Minutes**  
**January 4, 2016, 12:00 PM**  
**Selectmen Hearing Room**

Present: Matt McDonough, Phil Tavares, Bill Hocking, Laurie Bono, Brian Tingley, Stacey English, Mike McDonough, Mark MacDonald, Billy Pfaff

Matt McDonough opened the meeting with a review of the work the Town of Marshfield has done in recent years to address the growing opioid crisis in our community. Efforts include;

- ◆ the creation of the first med return drug depository box installed at our police station (Chief Tavares reviewed the policies in place for that program and its success over the last three years),
- ◆ the implementation of Narcan with the Marshfield Police Department
- ◆ placement of MPD officers with the DEA
- ◆ Marshfield's work in the creation of and continued participation in the OCPAC, Old Colony Police Anti-Crime Task Force
- ◆ the first Marshfield Overdose Awareness Vigil this past August. The vigil brought together hundreds of residents to plant 1,250 flags (representing those lost to overdose in 2014), remember those who have been lost with a ceremony and create further awareness in our town about this crisis.
- ◆ the work of our Board of Health member Mark MacDonald in being the first business owner to train his employees in the use of Narcan and having it available at the MacDonald Funeral Home.
- ◆ the creation of the 'Marshfield Coalition against Heroin' Facebook page by Melissa O'Hearn

Those present introduced themselves and explained how their professional and or personal lives have brought them to working on this issue.

Chief Tavares reviewed some of the recently released 2015 statistics relating to overdose in Plymouth County.

Fire Chief Bill Hocking spoke about how training has changed with fire personnel to encourage the use of Narcan on unresponsive persons when first responders are unable to identify a cause for the person to be unconscious. He further explained that there is no medical evidence of any person being allergic to Narcan.

The group engaged in a round table discussion of ideas regarding drug use prevention, law enforcement, and follow up services for those who have overdosed in town. Some of the ideas were:

- ◆ continued work with our local businesses to participate in a program of training employees in Narcan use and hosting Narcan at their establishments. (Mark MacDonald is in discussions with some business owners)
- ◆ letters to local businesses (working with chamber of commerce?) introducing the task force and asking for participation in our work (including Mark's program)
- ◆ further engaging our senior population about cleaning out their unused prescription drugs (Stacey suggested visiting our senior housing facilities)

◆ exploring a program to create a position in town that can facilitate working with treatment centers to find open beds and other detoxification and treatment programs.

◆ commercials on community access television notifying people of where they can go for treatment and other services related to opioid addiction.

Matt spoke about the need to create a recommendation for the board of selectmen with respect to composition of the task force and its goals. A draft will be prepared for our next meeting in February. One suggestion is to have an appointed committee of 7 or 9 residents with some alternates (for voting and quorum purposes) and to have associate member status for any interested resident who would like to participate in the work of the task force.

We concluded by thanking everyone for their participation and will reconvene in February to continue our work.