



City of Keene
New Hampshire

**MUNICIPAL SERVICES,
FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE
COMMITTEE
AGENDA
Council Chambers B
September 21, 2016
6:00 PM**

Janis O. Manwaring
Randy L. Filiault
Robert J. O'Conner
Stephen L. Hooper
Gary P. Lamoureux

-
1. Yvonne Gilberston - Request for Raised Crosswalk - 21 Roxbury Street
 2. Periodic Update from the Partner City Committee
 3. Final Report - Drug Addiction Solutions Committee

MORE TIME ITEMS:

- A. Driveway Code Review
- B. Reconstruction of the City Roadways and the Addition of Sidewalk Construction to Reconstruction Projects - Council Policy

Non Public Session
Adjournment



City of Keene, N.H.
Transmittal Form

September 12, 2016

TO: Mayor and Keene City Council

FROM:

THROUGH: Patricia A. Little, City Clerk

ITEM: 1.

SUBJECT: Yvonne Gilberston - Request for Raised Crosswalk - 21 Roxbury Street

COUNCIL ACTION:

In City Council September 15, 2016.

Referred to the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee.

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Communication - Gilberston

BACKGROUND:

On behalf of 41 other residents of Central Square Terrace, Yvonne Gilberston is requesting a speed bump at the crosswalk at 21 Roxbury Street to the main entrance of 5 Central Square Terrace. She notes that currently vehicles rarely slow down or stop when pedestrians are in the crosswalk.

In City Council September 15, 2016.

Referred to the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee.

August 25, 2016

Keene City Council
City Hall
3 Washington Street
Keene, NH 03431


Deputy City Clerk

Dear City Council Members,

My name is Yvonne Gilbertson. I am a resident of 5 Central Square Terrace, Ward 2, Keene, NH.

I, the residents and people in our neighborhood, are concerned with cars not stopping for pedestrians in the crosswalk on Roxbury Street near the main entrance to 5 Central Square Terrace. There are no stop signs on Roxbury street so it encourages motorists to naturally speed. We would like to proposed a speed bump at the crosswalk from 21 Roxbury Street to the main entrance of 5 Central Square Terrace where the current crosswalk exists. Currently, it is a dangerous crosswalk for our handicapped and elderly residents to cross the street. Vehicles rarely slow down or stop with the current crosswalk and signage.

With the new revitalization of commerce on Roxbury street, it will increase foot traffic. We would like to keep ahead of the need, particularly with all the children and families that will be coming to this area with the new MoCo Arts building at the old YMCA site.

I, on behalf of the residents at 5 Central Square Terrace, would like to thank you for taking the time to hear and consider our request.

Sincerely,



Yvonne Gilberston
5 Central Square Terrace
Apt. 706
Keene, NH 03431
603-247-8804

41 Signatures on
petition

Enclosure: Signatures of Residents at 5 Central Square in support of a speed bump at the crosswalk from 21 Roxbury Street to the main entrance of 5 Central Square.



City of Keene, N.H.
Transmittal Form

August 29, 2016

TO: Mayor and Keene City Council

FROM: Elizabeth Brown, Staff - ad hoc Drug Addiction Solutions Committee

ITEM: 3.

SUBJECT: Final Report - Drug Addiction Solutions Committee

COUNCIL ACTION:

In City Council September 1, 2016.

Referred to the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee.

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Final Report

BACKGROUND:

This is the final report from the ad hoc Drug Addiction Solutions Committee, which was established on September 17, 2015. The charge of the Committee was to act as a public forum for private and public agencies engaged in the prevention, combating and treatment of drug addiction, heroin addiction and substance abuse in order to inform, to problem solve, and to coordinate initiatives intended for the prevention and treatment of addictions.

**Ad Hoc Committee on Drug Addiction Solutions
2016
Committee's Final Report
August 18, 2016**

Overview

In recent years, New Hampshire has seen an unprecedented increase in substance abuse among its citizens, especially heroin and fentanyl use. The City of Keene has not been immune to this trend. In the past four years, emergency service calls for overdoses have nearly tripled. Drug-related deaths have also increased at an alarming rate. The current epidemic has devastating effects on the lives of individuals and their families, but also poses a significant threat to the local economy, the efficient deployment of city services, and the overall health of our community.

In the spring of 2014, the city council voted in favor of requesting that Mayor Kendall Lane appoint an Ad-Hoc Committee on Drug Addiction Solutions to investigate the current epidemic, identify gaps in current resources, support ongoing collaborative efforts, and present a list of recommendations to the Keene City Council.

The main goal and accomplishment of the task force was the bringing together a broad representation of stakeholders from the community to identify gaps and to raise awareness about current resources. Grandparents, parents, concerned citizens, medical professionals, teachers, school nurses, substance abuse counselors, state representatives and local public officials explored solutions for reducing the burden (economic, physical, social and emotional) of substance misuse.

Over the past year, the committee:

- Met monthly and facilitated coordination and collaborative efforts among many community stakeholder groups
- Facilitated dialog and presentations from experts in the areas of addiction treatment, recovery, and prevention.
- Created work groups to focus on education and legislative initiatives.
- Conducted an impact feasibility survey to analyze and evaluate potential action steps/recommendations

Ad Hoc Committee Members

- Randy Filiault (Co-Chair)
- Terry Clark (Co-Chair)
- Jan Manwaring
- James Duffy
- Brian Costa
- Mark Howard
- Kate McNally
- Eli Rivera
- George Hansel
- Robert Malay
- Alison Welsh
- Mary Drew
- Jessica White
- Dave Pence
- Marylouise Alther
- Deb Parker
- Natalie Neilson
- Amelie Gooding
- Kevin Holfelner
- Jeanne Leclerc
- Michelle Morrow, Ph.D.
- Christopher Coates
- Jennifer Whitehead
- Christopher McLaughlin
- Jose Montero, M.D.
- John Manning

Official Charge

Commission Charge: To act as a public forum for private and public agencies engaged in the prevention, combating, and treatment of drug addiction, heroin addiction, and substance abuse, in order to inform, to problem solve, and to coordinate initiatives intended for the prevention and treatment of addiction.

Scope of the Problem

In 2012, the Keene Fire Department responded to sixteen (16) overdose calls and administered a reversal drug (Narcan) twenty (20) times. In 2015, Keene Fire personnel responded to forty (40) overdose calls; and issued Narcan a total of seventy two (72) times. Through July 2016, the Keene Fire Department has responded to forty seven (47) drug overdose calls for service and has administered Narcan ninety (90) times.

In 2012, the Keene Police Department investigated two (2) overdose deaths resulting from opioids, namely heroin and fentanyl. In 2013, the number of drug overdose deaths elevated to nine (9). There were seven (7) overdose deaths in 2014, four (4) deaths in 2015 and (3) in the first half of 2016. To paint a clearer perspective, Keene experienced twenty-one (21) drug overdose deaths in the twelve-year period between 2000-2011. Over the past four and one half years, our city has experienced a total of twenty-five (25) overdose deaths.

The committee also recognized, but did not calculate, effects of substance abuse on other city services, as well as the impacts to local businesses and our workforce.

Exemplary Community Initiatives

Several promising initiatives and resources have recently developed (or expanded) in our region. Many of the committee members have been intimately involved in these collaborative efforts, and believe them worthy of highlighting in hopes they garner continued community support:

Cheshire County Addiction Assisted Recovery Initiative (ChAARI):

The Cheshire County Addiction Assisted Recovery Initiative (ChAARI) is a component of the Coordinated Access Point Program (CAPP), a pilot program created to address the current opioid epidemic. The initiative provides a single point of contact for individuals who want to begin treatment to recover from their addiction. Recovery Coaches are the foundation of the ChAARI program and serve as the single point of contact. Recovery Coaches guides the individual through obstacles and challenges as they work toward their goals. Those seeking, and ready, for help with substance use can call a 24/7 Helpline at 1.844.604.7878. The Coordinated Access Point Program is a pilot program of Southwestern Community Services that was also created to address the current opioid epidemic. This program augments the ongoing work of the many state, regional, and local entities striving to make a difference and save lives. Both of these programs are examples of what can be accomplished when all stakeholders come together and work to create positive influence regarding very complex community issues, such as the current opioid epidemic.

The Keene Serenity Center:

The Serenity Center on Carpenter Street in Keene has recently expanded (both physically and in the amount of programming) to play a larger role in recovery peer support for the community. Keene Serenity Center vision is: A community that embraces recovery. The center's mission: To build a community that embraces recovery through education and social supports in a safe environment.

Heroin Anonymous:

A Heroin Anonymous group has launched to offer an outlet to local addicts and people in recovery who want to find a way out of addiction. Since June 3, a group of nearly 25 members has met every Friday from 7 to 8:30 p.m., at the Serenity Center. The meetings feature open discussions, guest speakers, and sponsors. Jessica White, founder of Keene Hates Heroin, helped Heroin Anonymous get started in Keene. One of the most effective facets of the program is it pairs a recovering heroin addict with someone who has been sober for a longer period of time for peer-to-peer support. Heroin Anonymous is a nonprofit fellowship of men and women who have found an

alternative to heroin addiction. Members' primary purpose is to stay sober and help other heroin addicts achieve sobriety.

Emma's Circle:

Emma's Circle is a support group for caregivers of children affected by parents who are addicted, in early recovery, or have been lost to addiction. The group provides a warm, welcoming environment for caregivers to share their stories with others devoting their lives to the same care of a child and building supportive relationships with each other. Meetings are held every other Tuesday at the Keene Serenity Center in Keene.

Grand Heroes:

Grand Heroes is a program for Grandparents raising Grandchildren. It is a support and sharing group, which covers topics such as legal issues, housing, finances, health, and feelings. For more information, call 762-0265.

Recovery Coach Training:

A Recovery Coach is defined as anyone interested in promoting recovery by removing barriers and obstacles to recovery and serving as a personal guide and mentor for people seeking or already in recovery. Several Recovery Coach training events have been held in Keene and more training events are planned. Recovery coaches are a vital component to the success of the recovery community and the Cheshire County Drug Court program.

Increased Narcan Training and Narcan Kit Distribution:

Through several state-led initiatives and community action, naloxone (Narcan) kits have been more widely available to law enforcement agencies, emergency rooms, community health centers and community groups. Support for continued training and access to this life-saving drug is essential to lowering the number of overdose-related deaths in our community.

Increased Distribution and Communication of Data:

In an effort to inform the public the Keene Fire Department and Keene Police Department have been releasing data on the number of suspected opiate overdose responses and the number of times Narcan is administered. These monthly updates have been widely distributed and alert the public to the depth and severity of the current epidemic.

Policy Changes and Legislation:

Several pieces of State and Federal legislation have recently been passed, or are pending, that deal specifically with increasing access to treatment and addressing substance misuse. The committee recommends tracking and advocating for this legislation, as well as suggesting future legislation that will aid in filling the gaps and implementing the recommendations included in this report.

“Tapestry of Hope” Summit:

Healthy Monadnock welcomed more than 300 attendees to the Tapestry of Hope summit on May 17, 2016 that focused on preventing and treating addiction. Johann Hari was the keynote speaker and urged the group to end the stigma associated with substance misuse and to embrace social connection as part of the solution. Healthy Monadnock has hosted several community summits to increase education and awareness of issues impacting our community health. The goal is to build community capacity to implement action strategies for change. The summits also offer an opportunity to update the community on the progress of Healthy Monadnock and share community successes.

Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP):

The Greater Monadnock Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) has identified substance misuse as a priority area and created a work plan to address it. The plan measures the economic impacts of substance misuse in New Hampshire and details strategic goals and objectives for the region to address the issue.

Gaps in Current Resources

The committee identified several gaps in resources in their investigation of the issue and from the testimony of committee members and guests. This is by no means an exhaustive list, but the most striking gaps were identified:

- Lack of access to treatment for addiction
- Insufficient number of treatment professionals
 - There are few [approximately fifteen (15)] licensed alcohol and drug counselors practicing in Keene in outpatient and residential settings, as well as in private practice.
 - Licensure is essential for reimbursement and quality of care.
 - Expanded reimbursement for AOD services through Medicaid and commercial insurance has drastically increased demand for services, but treatment options have not grown at nearly the same pace.
- The following treatment types are very limited or not available in Keene:
 - Medical Detoxification
 - 28-day residential programs often have wait lists of between 1-4 weeks.
 - Residential treatment longer than (4) weeks.
 - Day treatment (also called “partial hospital”) 5hrs/day, (4) days per week.
 - Medication assisted treatment (MAT), especially buprenorphine and naltrexone injections.

- Adequate Continuum of Care
 - A system in which to properly place individuals where they will most benefit from treatment.
 - Residential treatment longer than four (4) weeks
- Insufficient capacity for alcohol and other drug outpatient services
 - Monadnock Family Services, MAPS, and Phoenix House all provide AOD services, but there are often waiting lists to receive treatment.

Recommendations

With the help of a professional facilitator, the committee generated a list of recommendations and participated in an impact feasibility study to assign scores to each based on impact and feasibility.

Highest Impact Recommendations:

- Support legislation for increased treatment, prevention, and recovery resources
- Support intervention and prevention efforts earlier with youth
- Increase access to detox facilities
- Increase resources for treatment
- Improve systems for resource allocation
- Support a continuum of care

Most Feasible Recommendations:

- Support intervention and prevention efforts earlier with youth
- Educate on the nature of addiction/combat stigma
- Develop systems for transportation
- Encourage more sober housing/transitional housing
- Develop a central hub for substance abuse/treatment information

Legislative Recommendations:

- Restore the New Hampshire Alcohol Fund
- Support permanent Medicaid Expansion
- Invest in evidence informed prevention programs
- Advance behavioral health workforce development
- Remove barriers to insurance coverage