



Contract Review Committee Meeting

Town of Nantucket

131 Pleasant Street

Nantucket, MA, 02554

www.nantucket-ma.gov

Contract Review Committee: Veronica Bolcik (Chair), Joanna Roche (Vice Chair & FinCom Rep), Dorothy Hertz (At-Large), Linda Williams (At-Large), John W. Belash (At-Large), Sue Mynttinen (CHS Rep), Bert Johnson (NP&EDC Rep)

Staff: Jerico Mele (Human Services Director), Alexandria Richards (Office Manager)

~MINUTES~

Friday, January 17, 2025

131 Pleasant St, Trailer

This meeting was held in person with remote participation using ZOOM and YouTube.

Attendance: Veronica Bolcik, Joana Roche, Sue Mynttinen, John Belash, Linda Williams

Health and Human Services Staff: Jerico Mele, Alexandria Richards

Grant Applicants: Deb Dubois (The Warming Place) Stephanie Serra, Emily Miller (Lighthouse School), Maureen McAllister, Dr Lepore, Allan Bell, Laura Burnett, Amy Sladnowski, Lauren Murray Soverino (Addiction Solutions), Nicole Reindel(Boys & Girls Club), Lisa Lothian(Nantucket Atheneum),Liz Hunt, Francine Balling, Tracy Sears, Liz Fuller, Liz Bochino (Artist Association), Michelle Soderberg (In the Herd), Janis Carreiro (Interfaith Council), Elizabeth Torrent, Kellie Hicks, Jessica Cisternelli (Health Imperatives), Kim Mead Walters, Amanda Wright (Sharing Kindness)

I. Call to Order

Veronica called the meeting to Order at 9:03am

II. Establish Quorum

Veronica established quorum at 9:04 am.

III. Approval of Agenda

John motioned to approve the agenda it was seconded by Sue and accepted by all members in attendance

IV. Approval of Minutes from 12.20.2024 & 02.06.2024

No minutes for approval.

V. Public Comment

No comment.

VI. Interviews with Grant Applicants for HS and Substance Misuse FY 26

9:15 am - 9:30 am Deb DuBois of The Warming Place

- Program served 24 unique individuals since November 1st, 2024
- Shelter averages 8-9 overnight guests during cold weather periods
- Staff works 11.5 hour shifts from 7:30 AM to 7:00 PM
- Interfaith Council requested \$75,000 for general operating funds as newly independent 501c3
- Program plans include:
 - Potential operations manager hire
 - 5% staff raise
 - Weekly summer outreach with Stop & Shop gift cards
- Organization exploring two options for required facility relocation:
 - Rental partnership with another nonprofit
 - Purchase and build with workforce housing component

9:30 am – 9:45 am Stephanie Serra & Emily Miller of Nantucket Lighthouse School

- Program provides free community education events since 2017
- Request focused on expanding speaker access and variety
- School partners with:
 - Town of Nantucket Community School
 - Dreamland Theater for film screenings
- Program features:
 - Live streaming capabilities reaching 20,000 online followers
 - Professional development credits for educators
 - Focus on child development, mental health, and education topics

9:45 am – 10:00 am Maureen McAllister, Allan Bell, Laura Burnett, Amy Sklandorski & Lauren of Addiction Solutions

- Program highlights:
 - No overdose deaths reported in past year
 - Serves patients through 3 weekly clinical sessions
 - Provides medication-assisted treatment
 - Sees approximately 900 patient contacts annually
- Recent program developments:
 - Added Dr. Katharina Armstrong for succession planning
 - Brought on Amanda Wright as therapist
 - Expanded bilingual outreach efforts

10:00 am – 10:15 am Nicole Reindel of Boys & Girls Club

- Program highlights:
 - Licensed for 20 students in the Club Jr program
 - Currently has five children enrolled in the program
 - The renovation would benefit all users of the Club by creating more space for all 350 daily users

10:15 am – 10:30 am Lisa Lothian, of Nantucket Atheneum

- Program highlights:
 - Recurring film screening for difficult topics/ wellness discussion (e.g. racism, death, depression anxiety)
 - Panels of speakers with local professional experts in various topics
 - Piloted the program in partnership with Cottage hospital & A Safe Place
 - Would be offered in multiple languages to appeal to the diversity of the Nantucket Community

10:30 am – 10:45 am Liz Hunt Obrien of Artist Association

- Program highlights:
 - Referrals received from all organizations across the island
 - Expanded class offerings
 - Classes are a mix of students from scholarships and non-scholarship

10:45 am – 11:00 am Michelle Soderberg of In the Herd

- Program completed 22 sessions serving 6 youth per session
- Total cost approximately \$400 per participant per day including:
 - Transportation
 - Meals and snacks
 - Professional staff and chaperones
 - On-site registered nurse
- Program achievements:
 - 70-80% increase in leadership/life skills awareness
 - Successfully coordinated complex logistics between island and mainland
 - Provided first off-island experience for some participants

11:00 am – 11:15 am Janis Carreiro of Interfaith Council

- Food pantry operations:
 - Open Tuesday-Thursday 3:00-6:00 PM
 - Serves 2,004 households
 - Must relocate from NRTA building by June 30th, 2026
- Rental assistance program:
 - Paid \$70,000 to 48 households in December 2024
 - \$80,000 increase in requests compared to previous year
 - Seeing 2-3 new referrals daily

11:15 am – 11:30 am Elizabeth Tarrant, Kellie Miscal, Jessica Cisternelli of Health Imperatives

- Organization serves over 1,000 people annually through:
 - 600 sexual/reproductive health clients
 - 400 WIC program participants
 - 235 current WIC enrollees with 233 actively using benefits
- Services include:
 - Multilingual staff support
 - Gender-affirming hormone therapy
 - Hepatitis C treatment
 - HIV prevention medication
 - Medication abortion

11:30 am – 11:45 am Kim Mead-Walters & Amanda Wright of Sharing Kindness

- Proposed new adult grief support program features:
 - Monthly meetings September 2025 through June 2026
 - Goal to serve 15 participants per group
 - Expected total reach of 20 direct participants
 - Translation services for multiple languages
 - Shared meal component starting at 5:30 PM
- Program would fill gap in sudden/unexpected death grief support services
- Amanda Wright trained as program clinician in fall 2024

VII. Other Business

Next meeting January 31st for deliberations.

Jerico discussed New \$55,000 grant opportunity from opioid settlement funds it will be an abbreviated grant process to launch March/April 2025 and it must be allocated before June 2025 to a Single award for maximum impact and must focus on treatment, prevention, or remediation.

VIII. Adjournment

Sue Motioned to adjourn it was seconded by Joana and accepted by all members in attendance at 12:21pm.