

COVID Response Task Force Minutes 11.29.2022

Attendees: Amber Buttermore, Whitney Brown, Janet Laatsch, Will Arvelo, Kathy Beebe, Lori Waltz, Nancy Brown, Laurie McIntosh, Abbie Frank, Meme Wheeler

Guest: Kim McNamara

1. Call to Order- Will called the meeting to order 12:04
2. Approval of Minutes for 11.15.22-Motioned by Lori W. and Kathy B. seconded, all in favor.
3. Kim M.-City of Portsmouth Health Department. Community profile should be given to her before the end of December from CHI. Then she will use ARPA funds for the needs assessment. They have spoken with a lot of families that were affected by COVID. The definition of health includes physical, mental and social well-being. The Community Health Needs assessment will focus on the vulnerable populations. She recommends that the \$3M of ARPA funds be put on hold until the needs assessment is done. Plus some of the nonprofits requested another \$3M. There will be focus groups as a part of the needs assessment January – April 2023.
4. Critical Areas of Need and Potential Solutions Discussion-Kathy said she's attending the 'Seacoast Women's Giving Circle' panel and they talked about mental health and the impact on the local community. She thought maybe we could add funds to an already existing grant source. Whitney mentioned adding GSCH, Granite Pathways, YMCA, Connections, Seacoast Mental Health, Greater Portsmouth Youth Wellness organization. Abbie mentioned Arts and reach, Seacoast Soul Models, Little League baseball, Haven, Crossroads. Will asked if we could recommend to the City Council to save money as a match for Women's Giving Circle. Lori mentioned that we might want to add the NHCF to provide grant money to. Amber mentioned potentially recommend~~ing to from~~ the city that they write legislation that allows the city to have continued support to non-profits. Kathy said in terms of recommending legislation that it's really out of scope of this project. See slides for details. The decision was made to go to the 12/5 meeting and use the slide presentation but specifically let them know that we are not done and would need more time. Whitney and Lori will go to the council meeting and present.
5. Public Comment-None
6. Adjourn-Laurie motioned to adjourn the meeting 1:04pm, Nancy seconded and all in favor.