

10/3/23 Opioid Abatement Committee

Present:

Amy Malone - Rochester City Councilor

Michelle Halligan Foley - Rochester Career & Technology Education Director

Chuck Creteau - Rochester City Councilor Candidate

4:35 pm Meeting started

Malone started with a recap of last month:

- She received the proposal for \$3500 for the restorative justice program for the school and it will be put on the December city council meeting.
- The need to start a scholarship for dental care.
- Malone asked Cindy Cunnigham if they could host a space at the hospital and she was going to look into it. Community Partners might be able to have a room also.

Malone asked what it would take to bring the Seabrook Youth Services program back to Rochester. To be able to get the services transported here instead of the youth transported to Seabrook. As of right now, if a youth needs the services, they have to find their own transportation. Malone stated that SYS has programs Rochester lacks and would be great to get them here. Halligan-Foley will have Nicole Dale reach out to SYS and see if they could get someone up here.

Malone stated that John Burns does not have the staff to run the warming center so she isn't sure what is going to happen with it opening and she's not sure what this committee could do to help. Halligan-Foley stated if they had money to help staff it, they could put a stipend and job description together for the 2024 winter. Halligan-Foley stated there may be someone out there that wants to do it and maybe the stipend would entice them. Creteau asked when it should be open, and Malone stated that they have no one to run it so there is no date. Malone stated if they don't get the warming center open then they are going to have to go back to church basements. Halligan-Foley stated that if they don't get the center open, the stipend position could be used to coordinate where to put people.

Creteau asked Halligan-Foley if anyone had reached out to Captain Todd Pinkham to see if his wife would know anyone for the grant position at the middle school as she is a therapist at Life Balance here in Rochester.

Halligan-Foley asked what happened with the sharp disposal boxes. Malone stated per Rodler, they are being used but not as originally thought as people are putting diabetic needles in. Malone stated they can put money into needle recovery if the committee wanted.

Halligan-Foley asked if there was anything else with housing that they discussed. Malone stated that Kay Wright, the Community Development Coordinator for the City, is going to come to a meeting. Malone stated that money can be used towards operational funding and trickle over to the community development and match the community development funds.

Halligan-Foley stated that so far on the list is needle recovery containers, the stipend for the warming center coordination, a scholarship for a dentist, housing (community development team) and transportation for the Seabrook Youth Services here in Rochester.

Halligan-Foley asked how much money they have as of right now, and Malone stated \$160K. Discussion was had on how much they think the above ideas will cost.

Halligan-Foley stated that what they should do now is put it all in an excel spreadsheet with the total cost and the data supporting it.

Discussion was had with Creteau explaining more about the committee and what issues the community has.

5:38 Meeting adjourned