



City of Kingston Live Well Kingston
Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, November 18, 2020
4:00 PM

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Access Code: 183-879-997

LOCATION: GOTOMEETING - Wed, Nov 18, 2020 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM (EST)

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

September Minutes

[20.09 September LWK Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

October Minutes

[20.10 October LWK Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

2021 Commissioners

REPORTS

Live Well Kingston Commission Action Plan

Communications Report

OLD BUSINESS

Return Inpatient Psychiatric Services Letter

[Return Inpatient Psychiatric Services Letter.pdf](#)

NEW BUSINESS

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

FOCUS TEAM MEETINGS AND OTHER EVENTS -

23 NOV GROW WELL

25 NOV KINGSTON EMERGENCY FOOD COLLABORATIVE

02 DEC KINGSTON EMERGENCY FOOD COLLABORATIVE

03 DEC ULSTER COUNTY FARM TO SCHOOL WORKING GROUP

07 DEC GROW WELL

09 DEC EAT WELL FOCUS TEAM MEETING

09 DEC KINGSTON EMERGENCY FOOD COLLABORATIVE

09 DEC COMPLETE STREETS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

16 DEC KINGSTON EMERGENCY FOOD COLLABORATIVE

21 DEC GROW WELL

23 DEC KINGSTON EMERGENCY FOOD COLLABORATIVE

30 DEC KINGSTON EMERGENCY FOOD COLLABORATIVE

Live Well Kingston September Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 16, 2020, 4 – 5:30pm, GotToMeeting

The recording can be viewed here: <https://youtu.be/icfbJUIhUto>

- I. Call to Order: 4:07
 - A. In Attendance:
 - 1. Commissioners: Anna Brett, Gerry Harrington, Stacy Kraft, Melinda Herzog, Lori Ferguson. Absent: Walter Woodley, Caitlin Zinsley,
 - 2. Guests: Emily Flynn, Dough Koop, Troy Ellen, Kevin McEvoy, Malia Du Mont, Francesca Ortolano,
- II. Reports
 - A. [Age Well Report](#)
 - 1. Emily will send out the report with the meeting notes.
 - 2. NYConnects, 211 United Way's Directory
 - B. Francesca
 - 1. SSIP - Senior group that meets weekly. Reaching out to seniors that are isolated. They are meeting by Zoom and at parks. Statewide Senior Action Council - Pushed for EPIC - Subscription Drug program. Meet 2nd Thursday of the Month. Governor Clinton Cyber Senior Program. Community Rooms at Gov. Clinton and Yosman were closed during COVID. Trying to support Seniors learn how to Zoom.
 - 2. NY Caring Majority - support of seniors and people with disabilities. In-home care workers have a fair wage and safe conditions.
 - 3. Isolation in the Senior community.
 - 4. Increase of rents/gentrification in the senior community
 - a) Dutch Village rents have increased
- III. Approval of Minutes -
 - A. [February Meeting Notes](#)
 - 1. Gerry made a motion to approve meeting minutes.
 - 2. Stacy seconded
 - 3. The motion passes
 - B. [June Meeting Notes](#)
 - 1. Lori made a motion to approve the meeting minutes.
 - 2. Melinda seconded
 - 3. Abstaining: Gerry
 - 4. Motion passes
 - C. [July Meeting Notes](#)
 - 1. Anna made a motion to approve the meeting minutes

2. Lori seconded
3. Motion passes
- D. [August Meeting Notes](#)
 1. Stacy made a motion to approve the meeting minutes
 2. Anna seconded
 3. Abstaining: Gerry
 4. Motion passes
- IV. Administrative Manners -
 - A. Open Commission Seats
 1. Malia is a resident of Kingston and works at Bard. Has a background in public policy and worked for the Pentagon. She is very interested in public transportation.
 2. Troy Ellen has been a part of the community for 2 years. Has family here. Works for the AJ Myers African Roots Library. Has been coordinating volunteers for the Kingston Emergency Food Collaborative.
 - B. Gerry makes a motion to approve Malia Dupont
 1. Second Lori
 2. Motion passes
 - C. Anna makes a motion to approve Troy Ellen
 1. Stacy Second
 2. Motion
 - D. Remote Motions - [Voting remotely document](#)
 1. After discussion Gerry said he would create a proposal for the next meeting to clarify how it could work.
- V. Old Business -
 - A. [Community Agreements](#)
 - B. Undoing Racism Trainings
 1. So You Want to Talk About Race Books are available for any Focus Team member. Reach out to Emily and she will get them a book.
- VI. New Business
 - A.
- VII. Announcements and Communications
 - A.
- VIII. Focus Team Meetings and other Events
 - A. 15 Sep Age Well Focus Team Meeting
 - B. 16 Sep Live Well Kingston Commission Meeting
 - C. 17 Sep Bike Friendly Kingston Slow Rides
 - D. 24 Sep Ulster County Farm To School Working Group
 - E. 24 Sep Bike Friendly Kingston Slow Rides
 - F. 26 Sep [Kingston Chalk the Walk](#)
 - G. 27 Sep Healing Circle, Academy Green

- H. 01 Oct Bike Friendly Kingston Slow Rides
- I. 02 Oct Heal Well Focus Team
 - 1. Housing as a foundation to health will be discussed
- J. 03 Oct [Kingston Community Bike Ride](#)
- K. 07 Oct Eat Well Focus Team Meeting

Meeting Adjourned: Gerry 5:38

Live Well Kingston October Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 21, 2020, 4 – 5:30pm, GotToMeeting

The recording can be viewed here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=boCkguQyt88>

- I. Call to Order: 4:03
 - A. In Attendance:
 - 1. Commissioners:
 - a) Present: Troy Ellen, Stacy Kraft, Gerry Harrington, Melinda Herzog, Malia Du Mont, Anna Brett, Dr. Woodley
 - b) Absent: Caitlin Zinsley
 - 2. Guests: Emily Flynn, Theresa Widmann, Cindy Muro, Rebecca Fox-Sevcik, Rennie Scott-Childress, Minerva Solla, Janet Strominger, Deborah Stewart, Michael Hertz
- II. Reports
 - A. [Heal Well Focus Team Report](#)
- III. Old Business
 - A. Grow Well Focus Team
 - 1. [Mission/Vision/Values Document](#)
 - 2. [Goals and Subgroups](#)
 - 3. Some concern about it being political.
 - 4. Review of the history should be a good first step for the Commission.
 - 5. Melinda makes a motion support the Urban Ag group to become a new Focus Team called Grow Well
 - a) Troy Ellen Aye
 - b) Melinda Aye
 - c) Stacy Aye
 - d) Anna Aye
 - e) Malia Aye
 - f) Gerry Nay
 - g) Dr. Woodley Abstain
 - 6. Motion passes
- IV. New Business
 - A. In-Patient Mental Health at HealthAlliance
 - 1. [Letter to State DOH/Cuomo](#)
 - 2. [Potential Memorializing Resolution Draft for Common Council](#)
 - 3. [HealthAlliance Response](#)
 - 4. Troy Ellen made a motion to write a letter not in favor of the decertification of the inpatient beds at HealthAlliance

5. Dr. Woodly. Second
6. Stacy Aye
7. Dr. Woodley Aye
8. Gerry Abstaining
9. Troy Ellen Aye
10. Malia Abstaining
11. Melinda Aye
12. Troy Ellen Aye

B. Motion Passes

V. Approval of Minutes

A. [September Meeting Notes](#)

B. Will vote on the notes next month.

VI. Administrative Manners

A. Commission Terms/Open Seats - Will talk about this next month.

B. Remote Motions - [Voting remotely document](#)

1. Tabled the discussion until next month.

VII. Announcements and Communications

A. Lights and Bells at the YMCA

VIII. Focus Team Meetings and other Events

A. No updates at this time

Meeting Adjourned: 5:37

Malia made a motion to adjourn. Gerry Seconded. All in favor.



Live Well Kingston Commission
420 Broadway
Kingston, NY, 12401
845-334-3909

November 6th, 2020

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Howard Zucker MD, JD, LLM
Commissioner of Health
Corning Tower Building, Empire State Plaza
Albany, NY 12237

Ann Marie T. Sullivan MD
Commissioner of Mental Health
44 Holland Avenue
Albany, NY 12229

Dear Governor, Commissioner and Commissioner:

We implore you to order Westchester Medical Center leadership to return inpatient psychiatric services and inpatient substance treatment services to Kingston's HealthAlliance Hospital: Mary's Avenue Campus, which it controls.

Its intention to abandon the inpatient services in Kingston breaks the promise that was made and will do great harm to Ulster County residents.

When the Governor declared the Mary's Avenue Campus a COVID surge hospital in March, HealthAlliance laudably responded by working with the State and Ulster County to provide the needed hospital capacity for COVID-19 patients. It also worked with the Westchester Medical Center leadership in Valhalla to move all Mary's Avenue Campus inpatient behavioral health services to MidHudson Regional Hospital in Poughkeepsie, one of HealthAlliance's sister hospitals in the Westchester Medical Center Health Network.

At the time, the Westchester Medical Center leadership publicly promised, and HealthAlliance leadership publicly echoed, that this move was only temporary to comply with the COVID directive. Inpatient psychiatric services and inpatient substance treatment services would later return to Kingston, they said.

Now Westchester Medical Center leadership says, and HealthAlliance leadership echoes, that the move is permanent. Seeking to seal its commitment forfeiture, Westchester Medical Center leadership now wants the beds that the Mary's Avenue Campus formerly provided for behavioral health services to be permanently decertified.

You can undoubtedly imagine the harm this would bring to Kingston and the surrounding communities HealthAlliance is licensed to serve. Here are two examples of injury that became clear just from the temporary move:

- Behavioral health patients transported to Poughkeepsie become separated from their families. Families with cars are able to visit their loved ones in Poughkeepsie. But others, without cars, must now travel, if they can afford to, by rural public transit. Riding the infrequent County buses from Kingston, Saugerties, Phoenicia and elsewhere triples the time it typically takes to drive the same distance by car.
- Behavioral health patients transported to Poughkeepsie are treated by doctors, nurses, social workers and others who certainly know their jobs well but generally know little about Kingston, Saugerties, Phoenicia and the other communities from which their Ulster County patients hail. Knowing the communities is clinically critical to helping patients connect with community resources in Kingston and elsewhere in Ulster County that support long-term recovery.

Westchester Medical Center's intention also runs contrary to several public health priorities of the State's Prevention Agenda, most notably to improve "mental health and substance abuse" and "access to public health care" but also to reduce health disparities. It additionally flies in the face of HealthAlliance's Community Service Plan, which lists its commitment to promoting mental health and well-being and preventing substance use disorders as one of its top three priorities.

We all know that a community and its relevant characteristics are—in and of themselves—essential determinants of health for community members.

Please use good judgment—the judgment that serves the Kingston community—and order Westchester Medical Center leadership to return inpatient psychiatric services and inpatient substance treatment services to HealthAlliance Hospital.

Sincerely,

Emily Flynn

Director of Health & Wellness, City of Kingston

On behalf of the Live Well Kingston Commission

Mayor Steve Noble, City of Kingston

City of Kingston
City Hall
420 Broadway
Kingston, NY 12401