

findings regarding the level of mental health support services offered by the Town over the past few years. She provided an overview of the discussion points within the report that was issued. She stated that one of the findings was that the Town had not been providing the level of service necessary to meet the needs. She continued to discuss the findings and priorities of the task force, including the need for creating a new full-time position of a Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker (LICSW). She stated that due to the volume of emergency calls received the Police Department felt strongly they required an emergency response social worker. She added that Weston had been experiencing a similar level of calls and she noted there was an opportunity for a shared full-time resource trained in emergency response mental health needs. She stated that there had been an allocation for \$20,000 for fringe benefits for the LICSW and she asked the Board if they would consider shifting some of the funds toward HRS to address their request for funding an additional part-time position.

Mr. Morgan asked that the memo recommending an additional HRS funding be circulated to the Board. He discussed additional questions and comments that Advisory had voiced regarding the original funding request.

Mr. Cohen, Chair of Board of Health; Ms. Testa Simonson, Vice Chair of Board of Health; and Mr. Evans, Executive Director of Human Relations Service, joined the Board. Mr. Cohen reviewed the population serviced by the Health Department for mental health as well as social service needs throughout Town. He reviewed the proposed management structure. Mr. Evans discussed the need for additional mental health as well as social services in Town. He added that his organization has had to refer patients due to the lack of resources. He discussed the second memo referencing a part-time position and the basis for the request. Ms. Testa Simonson discussed the model used for the reporting structure and noted that the model was common within the social services community. The Board discussed the proposed reporting structure and questions raised by the Advisory Committee. Mr. Evans responded to Ms. Freiman that he did not expect the need for mental health services to decline over time. Mr. Ulfelder stated his preference of finding an outside organization to provide the additional mental health services rather than adding additional employees to the Town staff. The Board continued to deliberate Article 9.

Ms. Lanza came before the Board. She stated that she believed the community need for services is real and urgent. She spoke regarding mental health emergencies for students and children in the schools. She recalled mental health emergencies within her own family and stated when the emergency occurred she did not know how to reach the appropriate resources and getting access took too long. She stated she believed that the need continues after a patient is released and believed a Town based system rather than outsourcing services would best serve the Town.

Mr. Rodrigue joined the Board. He stated that he is a clinical psychologist and reiterated Mr. Evans points regarding the unmet mental health and social service needs in Town. He stated he understood the comments and concerns expressed from the Advisory Committee but believed those concerns could be addressed well by the Board of Health and the Health Department.

Wellesley Office Park Development Agreement

Ms. Freiman recused herself.

Mr. Tamm of Goulston & Storrs joined the Board. He stated that the development agreement had been revised since the Board last reviewed it. He stated the revisions were based on comments received by the Board. Mr. Morgan asked that the Wellesley Office Park development agreement be added to the Board's agenda for the next meeting and agreed that parties should come to an agreement before the public hearings of the Planning Board and Advisory Committee.

Funding Mental Health and Social Services Discussion – Continued

Ms. Freiman rejoined the Board.

The Board continued to discuss the mental health and social services funding request. Ms. Sullivan Woods stated that the request should be considered as year one and the new LICSW would be responsible for working with the task force to strategize for a longer term plan for administering services. The Board discussed when they would be presenting before Advisory and the timing of the Advisory Committee's public hearing. Mr. Morgan discussed reviewing additional long term strategies for providing mental health and social services and how individual Town departments address those issues. The Board continued to discuss the funding request and its support for the warrant Article and possible motions to be brought at Special Town Meeting. Staff agreed to draft a motion for Article 9 for the Board to review at its next meeting.

4. Approve Sublease for Wellesley Sports Center

The Board briefly discussed the developer's practices regarding CORI and SORI checks as well as the naming rights of the facility. The Board agreed to move the discussion regarding the sublease to an upcoming agenda.

5. New Business and Correspondence

Board briefly discussed their calendar of upcoming agenda items.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:47 pm.