BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES AUGUST 18, 2011 APPROVED

Present: Anna Eliot, Chairman; George Dillon, Jr., Vice Chairman; Stuart M. Schulman **Absent:** Peter Cunningham, Clerk; Joshua A. Degen, **Also Present:** Mark W. Haddad, Town Manager; Patrice Garvin, Executive Assistant; Steven Boczenowski; Margaret Hammer, Project Interface

Ms. Eliot called the meeting to order at 10:00am

Mr. Boczenowski spoke about Project Interface and the need for mental health services and explained how Project Interface can help people get those services. Ms. Hammer stated that Project Interface is an assisted referral service to get people the help they need. Ms. Hammer stated that the project has a call center for participating towns. Mr. Dillon asked if all referrals were conducted on the phone. Ms. Hammer stated that the majority of referrals are done over the phone but some are face to face. The project has served 970 families in 12 towns. Ms. Eliot asked how and who identifies who needs mental health. Ms. Hammer described how Project Interface interacts with the health professional and the person calling.

Mr. Haddad asked how the project served the Town. Ms. Hammer stated that first the town needs to want the service project Interface provides. Ms. Hammer noted that this could be another service that the town offers its residents. Mr. Boczenowski stated that he has spoken to Groton Dunstable Regional School District Superintendent as well as the Board of Health. Ms. Eliot noted that there are other organizations that help do what Project Interface is doing. Ms. Hammer replied that Project Interface is a referral service, and that Project Interface makes the call for patients. Ms. Hammer gave a proposal of two years for \$14k. Ms. Eliot asked how doctors are placed on the list Project Interface draws from. Ms. Hammer stated that there is no charge to be on the referral list. Ms. Hammer added that if relationships do not work out others on the list are called for the patient.

Mr. Boczenowski's organization is almost ready to fund the first two years of the project in Town and in the third year is hoping that the Town can take over. Mr. Haddad stated that he would work with the Superintendent to work out a possible assessment. Mr. Haddad could not commit any money from the Town but after the first two years the Town will have data to work with.

Mr. Boczenowski stated that he would continue to have public sessions on this topic

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Dillon moved to adjourn at 11:00am. Mr. Schulman seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.

Approved: _

George Dillon, Vice Chair

respectfully *submitted*, Patrice Garvin Executive Assistant to the Town Manager

Date Approved: 9/2011