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*By Darlene Brady at 4:09 pm, Jun 07, 2022*

# TOWN OF KENT

## ARPA Needs Assessment Committee

Regular Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, May 25, 2022 @ 4:30 pm

Members in attendance:

Connie Manes  
Joe Agli  
Patricia Oris  
Glenn Sanchez  
Barbara Herbst  
Ruth Epstein

No members of the public were in attendance

- 
1. The meeting was called to order at 4:32 pm
  2. The agenda for the meeting was approved on a motion made by Ruth Epstein and seconded by Barbara Herbst.
  3. The minutes from the May 18th meeting were approved on a motion made by Barbara Herbst and seconded by Glenn Sanchez. Ruth Epstein abstained from voting.
  4. Connie Manes read Bonnie Donzella's letter regarding KVFD stair chair into the record.

From: **Kent Four** <[kent4@kentfire.org](mailto:kent4@kentfire.org)>

Date: Fri, May 13, 2022 at 5:01 PM

Subject: Fire Dept Stair chair misinformation

To: <[arpa@townofkentct.org](mailto:arpa@townofkentct.org)>, John Russell <[President@kentfire.org](mailto:President@kentfire.org)>, Alan Gawel <[alanguawel@gmail.com](mailto:alanguawel@gmail.com)>, Alan Gawel <[kent1@kentfire.org](mailto:kent1@kentfire.org)>, Kent Twelve <[kent12@kentfire.org](mailto:kent12@kentfire.org)>

Connie,

I was watching the May 11th recording of the arpa needs assessment committee and saw that you stated that the fire department has purchased a stairchair. You stated you saw a post on facebook. There was a post on facebook with a picture at our monday nights yearly training where we train on ALL our equipment. Nowhere in that post did it say "training with the NEW stair chair". This would be because we don't have a NEW stair chair. The chair we have is from 2013. With a life expectancy of 7-10 years, it has reached maturity and hence why we asked for money to purchase a new one.

I am saddened that such an assumption was made from a simple facebook post, sharing how we train at KVFD. If you have any questions or concerns in the future please don't hesitate to reach out to me at the number below. My cell is attached to my hip at all times.

I am requesting that this email be read into your records so that the misinformation that was presented by you to your committee, and ultimately the public, can be corrected.

Bonnie Donzella



**BONNIE DONZELLA**

AMBULANCE CHIEF

M | 475.529.6441

KENT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

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5. Connie Manes submitted a draft of our final report to the Board of Selectmen, as well as her section on Methodology. Committee members reviewed the draft and suggested modifications, which Connie will implement as appropriate.
6. The Committee agreed to jointly and equally sign the “Statement from the Committee” that is included in the final report to the Board of Selectmen.
7. The next meeting of the ARPA Needs Assessment Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, June 1st at 4:30.
8. The meeting was adjourned at 6:42pm

These are draft minutes. Corrections may be made by the Committee at a subsequent meeting. Please refer to subsequent meeting minutes for possible corrections and approval of these minutes.

***ARPA Assessment Committee charge: to conduct a needs assessment to make recommendations to the BoS on potential uses for the ARPA funds.***

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