

Pequannock Township Coalition, Minutes of Dec. 9, 2015 Meeting

PTHS Media Center

In attendance:

Marianne Albano (parent), Alberta Alleva (civic/volunteer), Jillian Andresen (school), Det. Steve Cicchetti (law), Brett Charleston (school), Chloe Cogavin (school), Lorin DePinto (parent), Donna Derricks (healthcare), Melissa Florence-Lynch (business), Mike Meyer (parent), Phyllis Minicuci (coordinator), Michael Portas (school), Mary Vineis (other youth serving), Cindy Wolkowitz (healthcare)

The meeting was started at 4:30 followed by introductions, housekeeping instructions, participant sign in, collection of new CIA forms, and distribution of meeting packets. Chloe offered to take notes for meeting minutes. November meeting minutes were approved.

Mary updated the coalition on MAC business: a supplemental fund to get more counseling services in schools, donation of \$500 to Epidemic H, continuing efforts to recover \$1500 from Katie Corstner for double paying for their presentation.

Members signed up for the following “work groups” which will begin meeting in the New Year. The year 6-10 funding renewal grant will be submitted in March, so the data collection group will be highly important.

- Messaging and Membership – Melissa, Cindy, Marianne
 - outreach, publicity, recruiting, public events to promote the coalition in the community
- Data Collection – Michael Portas, Steve, Jillian, Chloe, Phyllis
 - community assessment, qualitative data (anecdotal, social media, parents, , focus groups, key informant interviews) and quantitative data (survey, police, EMT, ER visits, etc.)
- Youth Coalition – Mary, Donna, Michael Meyer
 - supervise and schedule regular meetings and activities, provide volunteer opportunities for members at Coalition events, liaise with and help develop local SADD chapter
- Rx Medicine Misuse – Lorin, Marianne
- Underage Drinking – (no signups)

Phyllis gave an update on recent activities:

- SAFE Coalition of Hunterdon/Somerset’s Fall Prevention Conference featured Officer Jermaine Galloway who spoke on current drug culture trends as reflected in youth clothing, symbols, and innocent looking items being used as paraphernalia. He also spoke about marijuana and “dabbing.”
- The combined SADD and Interact students at PTHS labeled 1000 coffee cups with the Parents Who Host and PTC logos. 5 students signed up to be part of our Youth Coalition.
- Resource Kits featuring drug testing cups and support materials will be distributed by the Police Dept. Det. Cicchetti will be the liaison. The kits will be free to Pequannock Twp.

Pequannock Township Coalition, Minutes of Dec. 9, 2015 Meeting

residents. For others we may charge \$5-10 to cover the cost of the kit. Discussion surrounding publicity for the kits suggested that the town's website and newsletter, newspaper, school email blasts. Brett and Mike offered to send the information we give them out to parents via email and their school's websites.

- We need to fill several sectors prior to reapplying for year 6-10 funding. Currently we need a permanent member of the media, clergy, business, and youth serving to represent all required sectors.
- Reminder to please fill out the "interest" questionnaires and to let Phyllis know what type of training you would like in the future.

Brett updated the group on the survey – nearly 500 students took the survey at the high school. Middle school (7th and 8th graders) will take the survey on the 11th. Brett and Rich will pick 4 names randomly to decide which families won the gift cards.

Items for future consideration:

- Phyllis applied for a Grant of \$500 to hold a Town Hall Meeting. The meeting would need to focus on underage drinking. In addition to covering include local and state ordinances, additional possible topics could be the overdose prevention act, prescription return drop box, science of how drugs/alcohol affect the developing brain, and the resource kits.
- Tip Submit – an anonymous way for students to report anything dangerous (drug dealing, drug use, suicide, bullying, etc.) via an anonymous app on their phones which then prompts an investigation. The price is based upon the size of the community. The group agreed that this would be useful and that we should look into the price. Phyllis will follow up.
- Melissa talked about an upcoming Republican Club Meeting as a good venue to talk about the Pequannock Twp. Coalition.

Our next meeting will be January 13 at 4:30 in the PTHS Media Center.