

Natick Together for Youth

Meeting Minutes-February 12, 2013

In attendance: Marie Caradonna, Jane Detwiler, Christine Guthery, Astrid Dretler, Karen Rufo, Jim White, Karen Fossett, Jane Boyle, Ian Wong, Jane Biagi, Adam DeFrias, Diane Packer, Beth Heffler, Rick Halloran, Ian Mevoralh, Shelley Joseph, Astrid Dretler, Erica Dinerman

Agenda

Greg Grass, the DFC grant coordinator for Natick is making an impromptu visit to Natick on Feb 26 and will be spending the day. Erica will be scheduling meetings with Greg through out the day. If you are available,, it will be a great opportunity to share our work and hear from Greg. We are very excited to for his visit.

Jane and Erica reviewed the highlights of the CADCA conference. Erica suggested that NTY may want to send a group to the conference next year. Date is first weekend in Feb interested members should contact Erica.

Shelley Joseph reported on her participation on the Athletic Handbook revision team. They have had one meeting and expect to have at least two more meetings. There was a lengthy discussion about Captaincy issues. **Shelley also asked for input about minimum grades for participation in a sport.** Some want the expectation raised, some want to leave it as is. The group is striving to provide consistency in the Handbook.

Erica asked for a Coalition vote to hire Astrid Dretler as the Project Coordinator. Jane Detwiler made a motion and the group unanimously voted to approve hiring Astrid. People were very excited about having Astrid in this role and recognized her long commitment to the Coalition.

Adam DeFrias was introduced as a senior marketing student at Framingham State who will be working with NTY to promote the group with marketing and social media.

There was a discussion about the recent issue of methamphetamine laced marijuana that cause a teen to be hospitalized due to psychosis. The marijuana was field tested and came back positive. The Chief speculated about whether to keep the issue private. All agreed it provided an opportunity for parents to talk to their kids. Rose Bertucci sent an email to parents but not students or staff. Astrid and Jane D agreed to write a tip sheet for parents. We also want to encourage Rose to inform the students as well.

It is important that the Coalition has visibility in prevention. Otherwise, there is nothing to counter all of the messages that kids get.

Beth and Rick shared an update about the NTY Club. They have had mixed attendance and feel that they will have a better response at the middle school and will try again next year. The high school kids are too busy and that there is a redundancy of clubs at NHS.

Jane updated the group on the social marketing campaign about marijuana for parents being created by Sandy Pease. It should be ready in the next two weeks. Karen F talked about a focus group to create the youth campaign using the email list Beth has.

Karen F. shared a presentation about the SPF model from a training she attended. Several issues and points were raised:

- It seems unclear how the coalition is structured and how decisions are made

- Various strategies were presented based on the logic model and
- Requests were made for volunteers to accomplish tasks attached to the strategies.
- Several initiatives involve the police including working with our local package stores on ID checks. The Chief will take the lead on getting the package store owners to the table and Ian W will follow up with him.
- Doing programs like “cops in Shops requires informing the package stores
- Need to continue to constantly revisit Logic Model
- Do more to define our problems; need more data, more in depth discussion
- Scare tactics don’t work
- Numbers don’t support working on prescription drug prevention strategies
- Getting diversion up and running-where are the consequences?
- Over 21’s buy for younger kid
- Alcohol doesn’t freeze so putting it in the freezer shows when kids are skimming
- Library case-can North Star kids do it? Rick H will talk to Lorna

Erica introduced the idea of Prevention Week at the end of May. Asked sector members to participate. Proposed activities include a youth event, tip sheets, social norms on alcohol.