

Natick Together for Youth

Meeting Minutes-January 8, 2013

In attendance: Debbie Budd, Christine Guthery, Marie Caradonna, Ian Mevorach, Dan Keefe, Jane Detwiler, Christine Guthery, Astrid Dretler, Karen Rufo, Jim White, Bev Presson, Jane Boyle, Beth Heffler, Ian Mevorah, Victor Canino, Vickie Guest, Deb Sayre, Linda Stetson, Robert Rosen, Nina Taylor, Shelley Joseph, Tim Collins, Erica Dinerman

Updates

- **The Leadership Team** of NTY has met monthly prior to the NTY Coalition meetings to develop coalition structure and set the agenda. Volunteer members of the Leadership Team are: Michelle Cromwell, Paul Joseph, Karen Rufo, Christine Guthery, Astrid Dretler, Jane Detwiler, Deb Sayre, Margaret Boudreau, Jim White, Erica Dinerman, Chief Hicks
- Natick Officials to meet Wed to discuss **Marijuana dispensary restrictions**. Jim White will attend.
- **Selectman's Safety Summit**-NTY will not get involved in initiatives that involve gun control; Natick citizens may decide to do so; could suggest providing a check list to Selectmen *similar to suggestion proposed for requests for liquor licenses with a focus on ensuring youth safety. This idea of a questionnaire was suggested at the Leadership Meeting in response to having a community member who was interested in talking to NTY about a liquor license request
- **Social Marketing Campaign**- Karen Fossett recruited community members; Jane Detwiler will facilitate the process; about 20 people have signed up to participate in focus groups to create educational materials about marijuana and youth
- **Kennedy Peer Leaders to MPY Training**-NTY funded this training taking place on Jan 9
- **Bylaws** -work in progress to be revisited in June

Presentations:

Linda Stetson-Library Director

Nina Taylor-Teen Librarian

- Spoke about the good work for youth and positive attendance by youth using the library
- Interest in increasing Nina's hours to continue to serve youth including many hard to reach or at risk youth. Many reasons were identified including the ability to provide support to preparing youth in preparing for the future, the ability to collaborate with community organizations, less police involvement due to structure offered, great connections with kids
- Study rooms are being well used by older teens
- Christine Guthery presented an article about libraries and resiliency-www.resiliency.com
- **Letters of support to Fin Com or Selectmen from organizations and individuals**
- **INFORMATION ABOUT NINA'S WORK IS ATTACHED**

Tim Collins, Athletic Director Natick Middle and High Schools

- Reviewed the process for supporting athletes and in particular those identified with a substance abuse problem
- Longer discussion about how athletes who use drugs and alcohol are identified anonymously to school administration through pictures on Facebook etc. during out of school time. Some communities use an "in the presence of" rule which means if an athlete is at a place where illegal substances are, they can be held to MIAA standards. Natick does not use this rule.

- Shelley Joseph, Attorney and Natick resident who represents youth and adults mentioned that communities have different standards. Talked how the legal process works.
- Shelley and Erica will create a document that outlines how the legal system works when a student athlete is caught
- Zach Galvin is looking into what can be done when he receives tips and pictures etc.
- Tim is planning to host two meetings a year to talk with parents of student athletes
- An NTY member sent an email asking that the messages be delivered in a clearer and stronger fashion during parent/athlete meetings

Robert Rosen, Natick Patch

- New editor at the Patch encouraged NTY to use this resource
- Will provide instructions and support to Erica

ACTION ITEMS

- Two or three people to draft recommended questions for Selectman when someone applies for a liquor licenses with consideration for youth access and safety; copy would also be provided to applicant; check current Selectman’s requirements
- Erica and Shelley will work on an Informational Sheet to look outline legal responses to substance use and possession
- Sign up with Natick Patch

OPPORTUNITIES

BSAS -Teenage addiction and the Brain	Feb 5, 9-5	Shrewsbury	Attendance at training NTY will pay
Focus Groups for Marijuana Campaign	Jan 10 & 15	NHS-Library	Develop campaign through sharing ideas
School Committee Meeting	March 4	Town Hall	NTY Co-Presenter Coalition Presence
Questionnaire for Selectman and Liquor License Requests Natick Patch			Develop Questionnaire Sign up to tweet and provide information about NTY
Youth Librarian			Letters of support to Fin Com or Selectmen from organizations and individuals

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Congratulations to Ian Mevorach on the article about Common St Church on the front page of the Boston Globe on Christmas Day!

Congratulations to the Natick Public Schools for being awarded the Martin Meehan Award for Educational Leadership from the Middlesex DA’s Office based upon our outstanding bullying prevention work!!! **Christine Guthery** has been credited for all of her work with Natick Parents of Bullying that has identified Natick as a stand out in working to improve the lives of youth and families.

Medicinal Marijuana Updates:

1. The law has gone into effect and DPH has 120 days to write the regulations that will in part determine how much is a 60 day supply. No licenses will be issued until the regulations are provided to communities.
2. There is a new movement to create a "third way" project on marijuana that is an alternative between legalization and the current status of marijuana. After many months of work on a national level, this third alternative has evolved into **Project SAM - Smart Approaches to Marijuana**. SAM will be a bipartisan group, chaired by Rep. Patrick J. Kennedy, Jr., and will include George W. Bush's former speechwriter and Newsweek/Daily Beast columnist David Forum, Harvard Professor Sharon Levy, and other public health professionals and lawmaker. Look at the site: www.learnaboutsam.com