

TIVERTON PREVENTION COALITION

MEETING MINUTES: May 19, 2014

PRESENT: Coordinator Rebecca Elwell, Ray Davis, Nancy DeNuccio, Joe Runner, Sally Black, John Mattson, Chief Thomas Blakey, Jenni Santos-McNamee, Seena Franklin, Linda Larsen

Excused: Chairperson Edith Borden, William D. White, , Ed Parr, Chris O'Toole, and Elaine M. Aguiar

1. Welcome/Introductions

2. Approval of April minutes – motion by JR/SF; all in favor.

3. Change of schedule: cancel June 2014 meeting. July Breakfast is July 8 at 9 a.m. at Family Ties Restaurant, Coalition Celebration and Volunteer Recognition will be in October date TBA.

4. Reports:

a. Family Resource Fair: Seena reported on the success of the EBCAP Family Resource Fair in May. DCYF grant covers the cost of fair, this was the third year- each year it continues to grow- great opportunity to share information with Tiverton families about the many community resources available to them and for the vendors to network with other human service organizations serving the town.

b. Evaluation: John provided feedback on the four high school focus groups that took place on May 15th. Students provided confirmation of many of the findings of the recent survey through their comments and observations. Marijuana the overwhelming drug of choice- students report both ease of access and frequency of use; alcohol report to be more of a “treat”, harder to get and less frequently used. Alcohol tends to be a weekend use, marijuana used daily. Tobacco

and pill use is reported as rare.

c. Chief Blakey: reported that in excess of 200 pounds of medication has been turned in to the drop box at the police station since the program started. His department is still pursuing the training to carry Narcan as to in the battle against opiate overdose deaths.

d. Newport County Prevention Coordinator meetings: The coordinators from all Newport county towns have continued to meet regularly; Four coordinators met with representative of the Van Beuren Foundation on Friday, May 16. The Coordinators are focusing on developing ways to bring prevention together at a county level and formalizing the relationships/collaborations between communities.

e. Youth Program Coordinator: Jenni has scheduled an ATI meeting with students for May 28 to plan the last activity of the school year- The Wall of Inspiration. Over the summer she will be planning a welcome event for 9th graders for next September focusing on the clubs and activities that kids can participate in.

f. Student Athlete Leadership Council (Tiger PRIDE): Linda reported that the Tiger Pride students have planned two final activities for the end of the year a whiffle ball game and a “walk a mile” event that will have everyone in the school go outside to walk on the track during an advisory period. The students are planning to attend the 9th grade orientation in September and will also participate in the pre-season athletic meeting in August. Members of Tiger Pride have plans to reach out to alumni contacts through the Hall of Fame. The group has expanded from 8 to 16 since February and is hoping to add another 16 to round out the group.

- g. Student Assistance: tabled in Edith's absence**
- h. Health and Wellness: Sally Black –reported that the second round of food advisory group is taking place this week Thursday at Middle and High School and Friday at the elementary schools.**
- i. Bus Driver Breakfast: Ray reported on the success of the five bus driver/monitor sessions facilitated by ray and Rebecca on May 5th and 6th with all First Student drivers for Portsmouth Tiverton and Little Compton. Drivers and aides do serve as a prevention tool; they see and hear everything that goes on!! Focused on expressing appreciation for the work that they do, shared information about the use of e-pens and vape pens to use marijuana and also caution about the widespread availability of marijuana infused edibles. Good press in the Newport Daily News and Portsmouth Times.**
- j. OSPA/Attorney General's Workgroup: Nancy announced that we are still waiting for the marijuana bills to be heard in the senate committees.**
- k. Sustainability – nothing to report today.**
- Future Save the Dates:**
- Marijuana Presentation at Middletown Town Hall at 6:30 pm with Dr. Stuart Gitlow; all members are welcome to attend**
 - Gubernatorial Candidate Prevention Forum : August 6 at Bryant University: details to be announced**
 - “The Science of Marijuana: Separating Myth from Fact” conference and lunch: September 22 hosted by Butler Hospital and Project SAM: more details to be announced**

j. Motion to adjourn meeting at 10:45am by JR/ND; all in favor.

Next meetings – July 8