

Barrington's Substance Abuse Task Force

Drug Free Community Coalition

Barrington High School

200 Lincoln Avenue

May 4, 2015 at 8:45 am.

Present: Kathy Sullivan (Staff), Dr. Kristen Westmoreland (Staff), Deb Jerome (Civic group), Maura Fay (Parent), Sara Kriz (media), Ann Johnston (School), Chief John LaCross (Law Enforcement), Mike Skazinski (Faith organization), Jen Sapolsky (parent), Susan Freel (parent), Maura Fay (parent), Kerri Hayes (healthcare),

Not present: Eileen Johnson (Healthcare), Harper Berriman (youth), Diane Block (health care), Bill Cameron (business), Grethe Cobb (healthcare), Claudia Gordon (Parent), Maureen Janetta (School), Bob Shea (School), Chuck Lzbash (Youth Serving Organization), Kim Kelly (youth), Heather Annis (Faith Community), Brendan Curran (Faith Community). Heidi Fanion (Parent), Denise Alves (State Organization with Expertise in field of substance abuse), Deena Davis (Youth Serving Organization), Joanne Royley (School), Stacie McLoughlin (Parent), Jonathan Ashuler (School), Elsie Wright (School).

Presentation: Preventing Youth Tobacco and Nicotine Use

Karina Wood, RI Lung Association

Geri Guardino, Dept of Health

A thorough presentation on youth tobacco rates. RI has 2nd lowest cigarette youth use rate in the country. But, we have a high youth access rate.

E-cigs are an emerging challenge. The industry is targeting youth with its messaging, in light of the fact that 99% of current smokers started as youth. Hookah and e-cigs are increasing in use.

The FDA has only made one proposed ruling in six years. Currently they are unregulated by the FDA and, thus, there is little research into their effects. There are no health warnings.

Prevention efforts need to go into the Point Of Sale marketing tactics. Tobacco vendors should be asking for a photo ID of those under 28. There should be training of all tobacco vendors.

A suggestion: 1. create a local tobacco vendor license. This would generate revenue to support local enforcement of tobacco laws.

2. Ban the sale of flavored tobacco including electronic cigarettes

CDC is funding an evaluation of the Providence ordinance.

They will send us model ordinance language.

Are e-cigs included in SYNAR?

We could look a zoning for outlet density issues.

We need to keep the tobacco tax high to prevent youth access.

There is a bill to promote the use of child-restrain packaging on e-liquids.

The BAY Team has created a Surveillance Sheet for members to complete if they see someone using e-cigs in the community.

Committee Reports

Parenting The Parenting group has been busy working on two projects.

The group is working with HMS to create a Stress Free Garden area. We are hoping to help provide an area where students can spend time if they are experiencing stress and learn new and healthy strategies for calming down during stressful times.

The Committee is also developing an exciting new program called Camp iam! This four day program will take place at the BAY Spring community center and will be open to 7th and 8th grade students. The camp will focus on helping youth develop “sparks” or passions.

Dena D is working on the schedule.

Marijuana KS and SF went to a very balanced forum on Marijuana held at Brown University. KS also acted as a resource to the House Judiciary – invited in writing to provide expertise on the area of youth marijuana use and policy implications.

There is a resolution before the Town Council to oppose the tax and regulation of marijuana by the State.

CHOICES – the students are working on a Kindness Tree. Several assisted with the Tough Tiger, handing out water.

Policy/Prescription Drug - Combined group. Will meet on May 7th to work on tobacco ordinance suggestions.

Sustainability - We are “selling” the content of the successful marijuana guide to prevention colleagues in the state. This is part of the BAY Team’s Sustainability plan.