

MIDDLETOWN PREVENTION COALITION

MEETING MINUTES

February 22, 2018

MIDDLETOWN TOWN CHAMBERS

1. Welcome and Introductions: Meeting began at 6:08pm.

- **In attendance: Jennifer Baldwin (DFC Coordinator), Tom Lyons (Chair, Business), Jon Brett (Healthcare), Helen Sowinski (Civic/Volunteer), Kristen Petrarca (Youth Serving), Dave Guerriero (Law Enforcement), Pamela Martin (Military Liaison), Dennis Soares (School), Rick Lombardi (Governmental Liaison), Laurie Pauley (Faith), Hannah Gibbison (Youth), Sherrill Warch (Grandparent), Jamie Lehane (Other Org), Meghan Guild (Parent), Linda Leonard (guest)**
- **Excused absence: Jake Cathers (Vice Chair/Parent), Kate Manning (Other Organization), Anne Schultz (Youth Serving), Hillary Leonard (Media), Cameron Mas (Student Assistance Counselor), Jaegil Lee (Faith), Beatrice Casaula (Student Assistance Counselor), Meg Barrett (Healthcare),**
- **Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.**

2. Meeting minutes from Dec 21st reviewed.

Rick made motion to approve minutes. Jon seconded.

3. Financial Reports

- **Financial updates discussed.**

4. In the News

- **Jenn provided an informative handout summarizing the latest news articles for us to review.**

5. Executive Committee

- **The Executive Committee had Erin O’Gara from Potter League come in to discuss what a development consultant can do for us, and discussed our fundraising and reaching fundraising goals**
- **We are in need of a communication sector representative.**
- **Discussed NCPC workshop, having our subcommittee chairs attend, and having everyone register for the afternoon session if possible.**

6. Communication Committee

- **NCPC contracted with Cumulous Broadcasting and has put money into advertisement for the region.**

7. Policy Committee

- **TRL licensing ordinance postponed. Johnston ordinance is in the same situation as ours.**

8. Needs Assessment workgroup.

- **Next meeting Mar 12 at 2pm at town hall. Student Health & Wellness survey has been completed. Completion percentage has increased significantly. Next step is to develop focus groups to discuss findings.**

9. Military Outreach Committee

- **Month of the Military Child is April. Committee is working on a project for our schools to build awareness about our large population of military kids.**

10. Islanders Committed:

- **Lunch & Learns have been a great success. Planning for the next round will begin soon.**
- **Hannah thanked the committee members who put their time and effort in.**

11. Project Purple Workgroup:

- **Project Purple went very well. Great feedback from school administration, students and parents. Matt Bellace assembly was valuable. Volleyball tournament had a large turnout and was successful beyond our expectations! A debrief meeting will happen soon.**

12. Coordinators reports:

- **Printed reports provided.**
- **Newport County Prevention Night at Newport Golf on Jun 27th. We will need volunteers to help with this event.**
- **Volunteers needed for April Alcohol Awareness committee. Linda Leonard, Dennis Soares, and Meghan Guild volunteered.**
- **AQ Island Rally for Recovery is scheduled for Sep 8th.**

13. Topic of the Month:

- **Parkland FL tragedy discussed. A meeting will be held on Sunday Feb 25th in Town Hall at 4pm. Hannah has reached out to kids in the area for a discussion on how they would like to respond to the movement that is happening in the wake of the shooting. A National Walkout for 17 minutes to honor the victims will be held in a few weeks, March 14th Rally at the State House, March 24th a March in DC and in Boston will be discussed. IC wants to hear from students that are interested in being involved in these activities.**
- **Rick Lombardi discussed the unfunded mandates that are probably coming to us. Dave's advice is to focus your angles at keeping our local schools safe, before getting involved in a regional or national movement.**
- **Newport Mental Health has a 1 hr talk for professionals on how to identify and get treatment for those who have potential to harm others. He has gone to YMCA and Tiverton to give this training so far. Jamie is offering this at no charge to Middletown schools.**
- **Sherrill Warch handed out a pamphlet about Nonviolence in RI schools training that was held in Newport.**
- **A Town Hall meeting was discussed centering on community and school safety. Rick and the MPC members are all onboard.**
- **MPC offered support the IC students.**
- **Jennifer asked for volunteers to be involved: Jon Brett, and Laurie Pauley volunteered, Dave and Jamie offered supporting role. Meghan will be there.**

14. Old Business

- **See above committee reports**

15. New Business

- **See above committee reports**

16. Adjournment:

- **Meeting adjourned at 7:37pm.**

Next full committee meeting will be Mar 22nd.