

MIDDLETOWN PREVENTION COALITION

MEETING MINUTES

March 22, 2018

MIDDLETOWN TOWN CHAMBERS

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

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

2. Meeting minutes from Dec 21st reviewed.

Jon made motion to approve minutes, Jake seconded, motion approved.

3. Financial Reports

- **Financial updates discussed. April 12th is our hearing with the**

Town budget subcommittee.

4. In the News

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

5. Executive Committee

- **The Executive Committee focused on the Volunteer Recruitment and Engagement Workshop on March 26th. We agreed to use the NCPC agenda and make it work for our MPC members.**

6. Communication Workgroup

- **Working on developing and revamping our MPC website. We have met with two companies - Cumulus Media and Worldways Media who could help us develop and manage our website. Jake made motion to spend money to revamp our website, Dennis seconded, motion passed. Jake made motion to work with Worldways Media moving forward, John seconded, motion passed.**

7. Policy Workgroup

- **Workgroup have not met.**

8. Needs Assessment workgroup

- **Student Health & Wellness survey has been completed. Completion percentage has increased significantly. Next step is to develop focus groups to discuss findings.**

- Identifying names of students to participate in a focus group.
 - Dennis would like to administer this survey earlier next year.
- Teachers would like to hear feedback about the surveys.

9. Alcohol Awareness month workgroup

- Minutes are attached. Next meeting will be rescheduled.

10. Military Outreach workgroup.

- Month of the Military Child is April. We are creating tent cards for the schools highlighting celebrity military kids. We would like to purchase dog tags for our elementary school military kids.

11. Islanders Committed:

- Finishing up Project Purple.
- Mini lunch and learn sessions possible for May.
- Adult leadership team forming at Gaudet.

12. Project Purple Workgroup:

- Lessons learned from Project Purple and planning for next year is already in the works. Meghan Guild has offered to coordinate the event.

13. Coordinators reports:

- Printed reports provided.
- Monday recruitment and engagement workshop is Monday March 26th from 3pm – 7pm. Capacity building, recruitment, orientation is

the focus. All members are highly encouraged to participate.

14. Topic of the Month:

- **Coalition 101 training.**
- **Members separated into our three groups focusing on Alcohol, Marijuana and Vapes/E-cigarettes. Worked on developing our community problem statements, and contributing factors. Will delve further into this at a future session.**

15. Old Business

- **See above committee reports**

16. New Business

- **Drug take-back day April 28th at the Police Station. Volunteers will be needed.**
- **School & Community Safety Listening Session Team met and discussed Middletown community and students reaction to the recent school shooting in Parkland, and the potential need for a community gathering to discuss. We felt that the schools had handled their own safety situations and student reactions very well, and that no further action was required at this time. Laurie made a motion to table the listening sessions. Dennis seconded. Motion passed.**

17. Adjournment:

- **Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm.**

Next full committee meeting will be Apr 26th.