



May Advisory Board Meeting
Monday, May 1, 2017 at the
The Southington Community YMCA Administrative Building Meeting Room

MINUTES

Advisory Board Attendance: Beth Baker, Julia Brilla, Heather Clinger, Jack Eisenman, Mark Fazzolari, Tom Gallo, Steve Giudice, John Goralski, Kristen Guida, Shane Lockwood, Josh Maccione, Morgan Maccione, Lisa Mason, Steve Nyerick, Chris Palmieri, Denise Sicotte, Christina Simms, Carson Stifel, Rachel Wache

Staff Attendance: Megan Albanese, Kelly Leppard

Honorary Attendance and Guests: Kiana McDavid, John Myers, Brian Goralski

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Advisory Board President, Kristen Guida, at 4:32 p.m.

President Remarks: Kristen welcomed everyone.

STEPS Moment of the Month: The Moment of the Month was presented Kristen Guida. Kristen shared a personal experience and stressed the importance of knowing CPR.

Board Action:

Approval of Minutes: Shane Lockwood presented the April 2017 Advisory Board minutes. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Heather Clinger and seconded by Tom Gallo. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report: Megan Albanese reported (on behalf of the STEPS Treasurer) that the current balance of the STEPS donations account is \$21,924.00. A motion to approve the report was made by Heather Clinger and seconded by Shane Lockwood. The motion passed unanimously.

2017-2018 Board Nomination Slate: Kristen presented the 2017-2018 Board Nomination Slate that was recommended by the STEPS Executive Committee. A motion to accept the slate was made by Christina Simms and seconded by Tom Gallo. The motion passed unanimously.

Staff Report:

Megan Albanese, Administrative Assistant, reported the following:

1. On May 13th, the Post Office, the United Way and Southington Community Services, will hold their annual food drive. Mark Fazzolari explained details and to contact him if further interested.
2. On May 20th, the Rotary Club will be hosting a town-wide clean-up day. Please contact Steve Giudice if you are interested in further information.
3. The all-night graduation party is currently scheduled for Tuesday, June 20th. As the substance abuse prevention coalition, we thought it was a great cause to get involved. Kelly, Rachel Wache and I will be volunteering for the 8:30pm-12:00am slot. If you are interested in volunteering, please let Megan know.
4. Our parent information night is Tuesday, May 9th at SHS. We are hoping for a large Coalition showing. Christina added that it would be great if you could wear your STEPS shirt to show support.
5. Board Member spotlight: It is not uncommon to hear people in the community voice their opinions about how wonderful Mr. Steve Nyerick is and STEPS is no exception. Mr. Nyerick embodies our ABC classrooms and is such an asset in our trainings, to our Board and our community!
6. We have had an increase with our social media shares and likes – so please keep the likes and shares coming!
7. We are pleased to have been able to connect with Tina Riccio, who hosted an after-prom party that was substance and alcohol free. Megan encouraged board members to please check out the article on our website to get all the details about this amazing event and culture shift!
8. On behalf of Mark Pooler: The Positive Youth Development group spent most of their time in April focus on Good Deeds Week!
 - Any thanks to all the individuals, companies and organizations who participated
 - Great to have the support from the local schools and BOE – they did a great job bringing this to life in every school
 - We had a ton of boards and committees in town sign on to take the pledge including the Town Council – which says a lot about our community
 - Thanks to the members of our group who helped pull this off...it gets bigger and better each year because of their efforts
 - Thanks to all who took pictures too and a HUGE Thanks to Megan who was able to post all of the good deeds on the STEPS Facebook site.
 - The first post on FB that week summed up the week: “My son went around our neighborhood bringing in garbage cans for our neighbors who hadn't had a chance to bring them in yet. #GoodDeedWeek #BeSelfless” - Mother of a Southington Middle school student
 - Few other items:

- Great work by Mark Meade for recording a PSA about Teenagers still needing their parents
- John Myers and our group are working in support of the BOE on helping to make community service a requirement in the future for graduating High School students

Kelly Leppard, Youth Prevention Coordinator, reported on the following:

1. This is Kiana's last week here with us. She has just about completed her 270 hours and will be graduating with her BA in Public Health from Southern in a few short weeks! Kelly thanked Kiana for all of her work and stated that we hope she enjoyed spending the last four months with us and she was able to get a good understanding of prevention and coalition work.
2. As Megan mentioned, it would be really great to have our board members attend the Educational Drug Awareness Night for parents with Lt. Chris Bartolotta from the State Police has been rescheduled to Tuesday, May 9, 2017 at 6:30pm at SHS, followed by a resource fair.
3. We have been moved to the July edition of Southington Magazine so please keep a lookout over the summer for the article on STEPS!
4. The CT Prevention Conference is coming up on Monday, May 15th in Cromwell. The conference was full in just a few short weeks and currently has a waiting list. We have been asked to present along with the town of Gilford regarding our youth involvement and create a workshop on how to create a town ordinance.
5. Between the prom campaigns, the parent education even on the 9th, the state-wide prevention conference, the 5th and 8th grade transition days and the annual asset building classrooms training, the next three weeks are very busy for us. Kelly asked board members to please participate in any of these initiatives if they can.
6. At the monthly CAPP membership meeting this past week, the new Hidden in Plain Site workshop was featured. This presentation consists of a mock 'teens' bedroom filled with drug paraphernalia items. This presentation will also be at the event at Southington High School on May 9th during the resource fair. We also plan to partner with Southington Youth Services to have this workshop for our parent information series this fall.
7. Our last board meeting for 2016 -2017 is Monday, June 5th and we will be saying goodbye to two of our seniors (Morgan and Carson) and Tom Gallo who is retiring.
8. Please save the date: STEPS Drive-In Night is going to be Saturday, August 29th. We will send an email out requesting volunteers in the beginning of August.

Sector Reports:

Prom PROMise campaign, Heather Clinger, reported the following:

1. The underage drinking workgroup has been working on the PROMise. Efforts in past years were not feasible and had little return rate. We also wanted to expand the pledge to make it more of a community effort. The campaign kicked off last week

when Junior class officers went to the Junior English classes Heather debuted the PROMise dry-erase boards & leave behind cards, encouraging Board members to spread the word to their neighbors, family and colleagues. Board members were also encouraged to take pictures of people with the PROMise sign and send to us via email by May 16.

Law Enforcement Sector:

Officer Tom Gallo, Board Member, reported the following:

1. A report was given on recent youth arrests regarding substances.
2. There were no incidents at Junior Prom.
3. With senior Prom approaching, the Southington Police Department will be partnering with STEPS to conduct Party Patrol Checks which will include visits to local motels and hotels.

5th & 8th Grade Transition/Asset Building Days, Board member Chris Palmieri reported:

1. 5th Grade Transition/Asset Day is all set for May 15th and 17th. Thanks to the help of staff at YMCA Camp Sloper, we are ready for another great year.
2. The 8th Grade Transition/Asset Day format has changed this year. Since the transition to high school can provoke anxiety in many students, it seemed appropriate to move the transition day to SHS so that students can get a tour and become familiar with the school. This idea came to life based off recommendations from the students. There is also a drug/alcohol component, planning and decision making component and a skill building piece for the students that will not be attending Southington High School in the fall.

Asset Building Classrooms Annual Training, Board member Steve Nyerick reported:

1. This training will take place on May 18th and will be for all of our ABC champions and educators.
2. Each school will be able to break out individually and focus on personalizing this initiative in their school.
3. It is a great day and we are able to get a lot of people trained, including over 120 students.
4. Everyone is welcome to come check it out!

Narcan in Southington Public Schools, Board member Shane Lockwood reported:

1. Narcan is an opioid reversal drug in a nasal spray and is now available in our high school and middle schools.
2. The idea of this was brought to Tim Connellan and the Board of Education and was so well received that there was only a 2 week turnaround time. This helped to verify the need and importance.

3. Narcan is a life-saving technique for students and adults. PD, FD, and AMR are all trained in the technique.
4. Anyone that Narcan is administered to is brought to the ED. The Police Department conducts follow up with the adults that receive Narcan.

13 Reasons Why Discussion

1. Board member Christina Simms led a discussion about '13 Reasons Why,' which began as a book and has recently been turned into a Netflix series that is raising a lot of concerns for young people. A trailer of the series was viewed.
2. Board member Heather Clinger was able to share her expertise and experience presenting at the American Association of Suicidology's 50th annual conference. 1-800-273-TALK is a great resource.
3. Chris Palmieri sent out talking parents to middle school parents to be able to start the conversation with their children about suicide prevention.

Video from STEPS Youth Council Seniors

1. Board members were able to view the video our Youth Council Seniors made. The video can be seen on our Facebook page.

New Business: None

Next Board meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 5, 2017, 4:30pm, at the YMCA Administrative Building.

Meeting adjourned at 5:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Megan Albanese