



April Advisory Board Meeting/Retreat
Monday, April 4, 2016 at the
Spartan's II Restaurant

MINUTES

Advisory Board Attendance: Beth Baker, Julia Brilla, Nancy Chiero, Heather Clinger, Jack Eisenmann, Mark Fazzolari, Tom Gallo, Jim Garstang, Steve Giudice, Sarah Lamb, Shane Lockwood, Tom Lombardi, Chris Palmieri, Mark Pooler, Joshua Rinas, Josie Rogala, Trever Rogers, Sue Saucier, Denise Sicotte, Rachel Wache.

Staff Attendance: Meredith Fenwick, Kelly Leppard, Joe Foster.

Honorary Attendance and Guests: Evelyn Ciaburri, AJ Garstang, Marc Goldstein, John Myers.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Advisory Board President, Jim Garstang, at 4:23 p.m. Jim welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the meeting especially in the inclement weather.

STEPS Moment of the Month: The Moment of the Month was presented by Jim Garstang. He said that he was asked to speak to the Southington Rotary club about STEPS. He said that it was good timing after going to Hartford to talk about recreational marijuana recently. He said that two weeks prior to Jim speaking at their meeting, they had had someone speak who was giving all the good reasons to have medical marijuana available in the town. He said that there were many Rotarians very intrigued by that idea. Jim said that he spoke about STEPS and asset building and he brought up the survey. It was a warm audience. He said that it was nice to hear such good feedback about STEPS.

President Remarks: Jim introduced Marc Goldstein, the coalition's evaluator and Jim said that Marc is here to help with directing questions about the survey data and clarifications on some of the measures. Jim thanked all of the board members who delivered the ID books to bars, restaurants and package stores.

Board Action:

Approval of Minutes: Advisory Board Secretary, Chris Palmieri presented the March 2016 Advisory Board minutes. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Shane Lockwood and seconded by Heather Clinger. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report: Advisory Board Treasurer, Shane Lockwood, reported that there is currently a balance of \$18,649.92 in the STEPS Donation account. A motion to approve the financial report was made by Chris Palmieri and seconded by Mark Pooler. The motion passed unanimously.

Staff Report:

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

1. Kelly reported that this past month, the Southington Police Department in conjunction with the Connecticut Liquor Commission conducted compliance checks at local off-premises and on-premises liquor permittees. She said that the Fireplace and Casa Margarita were both failed the checks as well as Tops Supermarket. She said that the SPD also conducted compliance checks for the tobacco ordinance and 12 establishments were given warnings as they were not compliant with the town ordinance. Kelly said that there are 16 people at Aziago Restaurant that are being TIPS certified tonight. There is another training being held on May 2nd.
2. Mark Pooler presented a letter from John Pucci, the owner of the Fireplace. Mark said that he is friends with John and read the first paragraph of the letter to the board. Mark said that in his letter, John said that he is working to make changes to prevent underage drinking and he and his staff are taking it very seriously. Mark said that he thinks this is the type of restaurant/bar owner we want to see – people make mistakes and they care to try and fix them. Mark said that John was very worried about what the board and community would think about his establishment for failing the check.
3. Jim asked board members to share their experiences delivering the ID Checking Guide Books:

Jim said that he delivered to both package stores and restaurants and found that at the package stores, it mostly an employee he spoke with and they didn't show a lot of interest. Jim said that at the restaurants, the owners were often there and he got great response and they thought it was great we were giving the books out – many said they knew about TIPS trainings, had been through it, were certified and were happy to hear we were sponsoring upcoming trainings.

Heather Clinger said that she went to the hotels and had a great experience where the manager came out and talked about how she had just gotten something in the mail about ordering the books. She was very appreciative to get one from us.

Denise Sicotte said she went to a package store and Sliders and also had a similar experience as Jim – very appreciative at the bars, but package store didn't seem to care.

Sector Reports:

Be in the Know Committee:

Heather Clinger, Committee Member, reported the following:

1. Heather reported that the Parents Keeping Up with Technology was last Tuesday and there were at least 52 people. She said that overall it was a great presentation and thanked those who came and brought people with them. She said that as he promised, Scott Driscoll did his presentation and stayed until the last question was answered. She said that the evaluations were very positive with great comments.
2. Heather said that the next Be in the Know Forum is on Tuesday, April 19th and is at the Southington Public Library. She asked board members to attend and if they can, bring two people. She said that this speaker presents across the United States. He is passionate about marijuana and the dangers for youth. Heather has heard him speak a couple of times and highly recommends it. Heather handed out flyers.

Youth Council:

Trever Roger, Council Members, reported the following:

1. Trever reported that last month, the Youth Council met with Dr. Mary Yuskis from the Early Childhood Collaborative and did a focus group with questions about education and childhood development in Southington. He said they also they talked about ways to help with the safe Prom campaign.
2. Trever said that there was an e-cigarettes poster contest. Trever said all of the entries were amazing and the winners received Dunkin Donuts gift certificates. Meredith is helping with the final edits of winner poster.
3. Trever reported that this is his and Sarah's last year as the team captains for the STEPS Relay for Life team and they are hoping to go out with a bang. He said that they made \$75 raffling off Mr. Stranieri's parking spot. Trever said that the annual car wash is coming up on Saturday April 23rd at the YMCA. Trever handed out packets to all of the board members with all important dates and a sign up for the team. Trever said that he will be at Fancy Bagel collecting donations and there will also be a bake sale coming up. He will report on the fundraisers at the next meeting.

Good Deeds Day:

Josie Rogala, committee chair, reported the following:

1. Josie said that her team received great t-shirts from the Good Deeds organization and they are available for board members to pick up - because Good Deeds Week starts today. Josie asked if anyone did a good deed today – Heather Clinger said she cleaned off her neighbor's cars from the snow. Shane Lockwood said that they are going to the armory and giving them breakfast Tuesday morning. Mark Pooler said a team of YMCA staff were planning to go rake leaves tomorrow but due to weather that may be postponed.

Sue Saucier, staff member, reported the following:

1. Sue said that the town council was considering adding an ordinance that states the town may serve alcohol at events in town buildings including the library and new Cultural Arts Center. Sue said that she and Kristen Guida went to the meeting and spoke, asking that they include language in the policy that stated it was for 'adult-oriented' events only. Sue said that it was clear from the beginning that the council was already made up on the matter even though Sue spoke and said she was very disappointed that they wouldn't include that.

Chris Palmieri said that he thought they could include the language so that family functions like Taste of Southington wouldn't have it, but something like a private wedding at the Barnes Museum would. Chris said that it was frustrating that the idea of adding the language wasn't even entertained. Mark Pooler asked what the other side of the coin is on this. Chris said that the other town councilors said that it would make it harder for the town attorney to make the decision if that language was included, but he thought that seemed backwards.

Jim asked if there is anything they want us to do or to watch for with this going forward. Sue said it is just for awareness and also to make sure that things are still going all well as it progresses.

Tom Lombardi said that the entire council is aware of the dangers. He also said that each event will be approved on a case-by-case basis. He said that he thinks that from our groups' perspective that we can let the places know that these events are closely monitored. He also said that nothing is set in stone - it will be revisited next year and we need to keep an eye on what events are being approved.

Tom Gallo said that from the enforcement side of it – is there a grey area when trying to enforce this, if they go to an event because someone made a complaint – how can they act on that without the adult-oriented language.

New Business: No new business.

The board went on to discuss survey results as was planned for the retreat.

Next Board meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 2, 2016 at 4:30 p.m. at the Southington-Cheshire YMCA Administration Building.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Meredith Fenwick