



November Advisory Board Meeting
Monday, November 2, 2015 at the
The Southington Community YMCA Administrative Building Meeting Room

MINUTES

Advisory Board Attendance: Beth Baker, Chris Bracken, Julia Brilla, Nancy Chiero, Heather Clinger, Kaye Davis, John Dobbins, Jack Eisenmann, Mark Fazzolari, E. Richard Fortunato, Tom Gallo, Jim Garstang, Justine Griffin, Steve Giudice, Kristen Guida, Sarah Lamb, Tom Lombardi, Morgan Maccione, James McAloon, Chris Palmieri, Mark Pooler, Joshua Rinas, Josie Rogala, Trever Rogers, Denise Sicotte, Carson Stifel, Rachel Wache.

Staff Attendance: Meredith Fenwick, Kelly Leppard.

Honorary Attendance: none.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Advisory Board President, Jim Garstang, at 4:32 p.m. Jim welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

President Remarks: Jim asked Meredith if board members were submitting their board volunteer logs. Meredith said that board members have been doing a great job. Jim thanked everyone.

Jim said that November 13th is career day at Kennedy Middle School and asked board members to participate if they are interested and available. The staff members will email out the sign up sheet.

Jim said that in April, there is a national campaign called 'Good Deeds Day' and it sounds something we could bring to our community. Jim asked for board members to each look into the campaign and brainstorm a few ideas to make the project happen.

Jim said that the Executive Committee team leaders have been reaching out to board members each month for an update on their committee work. Please do your best to respond.

STEPS Moment of the Month:

Mark Pooler presented the Moment of the Month. Mark spoke about the SHS Student Council Think Tank Leadership Training that was at Camp Sloper this past week. Mark said that he and James McAloon worked on this program and it has been three years in the making. This year 40-50 high school students (who are freshman through seniors) spent the day at camp to take part in team building activities in the morning and then followed up with committee work in the afternoon. Mark said that their goal is to do two things in 2015 and two things in 2016 per committee before the year ends, hoping to have a nice impact on the student body.

Board Action:

Approval of Minutes: Advisory Board Secretary, Jim Garstang presented the October 2015 Advisory Board minutes. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Chris Palmieri and seconded by Tom Gallo. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report: Advisory Board Vice President, Kristen Guida, reported that there is currently a balance of \$15,739.92 in the STEPS Donation account. A motion to approve the financial report was made by Heather Clinger and seconded by Chris Palmieri. The motion passed unanimously.

Staff Report:

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

1. Kelly said that STEPS donated a wreath to the United Way's Festival of the Trees, which is Thursday, November 12th from 6-8pm at Hawks Landing. She said that tickets are \$15 and for seniors and veterans the tickets are \$10.
2. Kelly read an email she received from an ER Nurse at Bradley Hospital highlighting a recent 60 Minutes story on heroin use. The email included her opinion on how relevant STEPS' mission is in town, reducing alcohol and marijuana use as they are gateway drugs.
3. Kelly said that she is looking for an intern for this spring if anyone knows of anyone that needs an internship, their main job is to help us with the prom campaign. Mark Pooler asked she forward the requirements to him to get out to the YMCA staff.
4. Kelly said that Forever in Blue Jeans this year will be on Friday, November 20th at the Aqua Turf.
5. Kelly asked that we please keep collecting calendars for the calendar drive for the veterans. Jim asked Rachel what her target number is and Rachel said anywhere from 2-3,000 calendars. Rachel said that there are boxes around town at the library, town hall, Calendar House etc.

Sector Reports:

Reducing Substances Committee:

Heather Clinger, Committee Member, reported the following:

1. Heather said that the "Be in the Know" forum was attended by about 24 people in addition to staff and presenters. She said that it was a good turnout for the first one and that it was about the CT Social Host Law and how to talk to kids about the dangers of underage drinking. Presenters included Attorney Tony Sheffy, Dr. George Skarvinko, Lieutenant Steve Elliott and Officer Chad Butler. Nancy Chiero said that it was fabulous and Heather said that it was received very well. Heather presented information that she collected from the evaluation survey that was handed out that night. She said that we plan to run the same informational forum again in March. Heather shared the packet that was passed out for people to see what was given out.
2. Heather said that right now plans are in the works for a marijuana forum and after that a forum on prescription drugs. Kaye was at DePaolo Open house and parents were really excited about the idea and she had some great conversations with parents about STEPS.

Youth Council:

Trever Rogers, Committee Member, reported the following:

1. Trever reported that he is currently working on a project to promote Southington Serves. He said that he presented on the project at Immaculate Conception Church this past month and he has been going to places around town educating them on the site and how to use it. He is planning to go to Southington Care and Community Services this week too.
2. Sarah Lamb reported that the Youth Council is officially full and has a great group of students. They are looking forward to a great year.
3. Carson Stifel reported that the Youth Committee participated in the town's Red Ribbon Rally and volunteered for Halloween at the Drive-in this past month. She said that on Sunday, November 1, they volunteered at the Bark for Life and this Friday will be handing out pom poms at the last home football game of the season. She said that bell ringing is at Stop and Shop Dec. 9 at 4:30.
4. Julia Brilla reported that at the last Youth Council meeting they worked on a short video on decision making and the consequences of making bad choices. They will show the video at the December board meeting.
5. Morgan Maccione reported that a small group of Youth Council members are working on a presentation to show the rest of the members about the laws and decriminalization of marijuana for their November meeting. They will also share this information at the December board meeting.

Medical Committee:

Chris Bracken, Committee Member, reported the following:

1. Chris reported that at the last meeting, flyers were handed out about the Lock It or Drop It Campaign. Chris said that she took a few with her and brought them to Beacon Pharmacy. Chris said that she is going to go to the other 15 pharmacies in town and see if they will hang up the flyer. She is also going to ask if they would participate in a sticker shock campaign with the information for the medication bags.

Parent/ABC Committee:

Denise Sicotte, Committee Member, reported the following:

1. Denise reported that last month, she attended the Asset Building Classrooms Champion meeting. As an outcome, she's drafted an email that will be sent home to each family in the district (through their schools) every month on the importance of families getting involved as asset builders at their homes. She said that she is hoping to continue communication with the parents and use feedback from the parents collected at the ABC training in May.

Law Enforcement Committee:

Officer Tom Gallo, Committee Member, reported the following:

1. Officer Gallo reported that in the middle of October he and Kelly received an email from Annik at Beacon Pharmacy regarding the new law regarding prescribing Narcan. He said that if you overdose on an opiate based drug, Narcan can bring you out of the high and can bring you back from the overdose. He said that pharmacists are now allowed to prescribe Narcan and dispense it to family, friends and caregivers. He said Narcan intranasal kits are now also part of the Southington Police Department's medical kit and all officers have been trained to administer the drug.
2. Tom said that he pulled up the second chance society bill which went into effect October 1. He said that the bill reduces drug possession from a felony to a Class A misdemeanor. He said that the change that is most disturbing is the change in the area size of the school drug zone and that has gotten smaller. The penalty for a Class A misdemeanor is up to 1 year in a prison and a fine of up to \$2,000 or both.
3. Nancy Chiero brought up an article she read in the Record-Journal this morning about the ANGEL group, where an addict can come into a police department, give up their drugs and there is no arrest and the police will get them into rehab. Tom said that as part of the second chance law; if a person is overdosing and they have drugs on them, police are not allowed to arrest them for having those drugs in their possession.
4. Kristen Guida asked John Dobbins if he has seen a lot of people take advantage of Narcan. He said that he hasn't heard a lot of cases yet. Chris Palmieri asked if that means that anyone can walk into Beacon and ask for Narcan and they would give it to them? John said that yes, if you answer a few questions correctly, they will prescribe Narcan to you.

New Business:

1. Jim Garstang said that he was happy to be able to attend Nancy's Tech Committee meeting in the VoAg building at SHS last week. He said they have an amazing committee and the amount of things they are doing to help kids find their way is impressive. We might be able to partner with this group on projects in the future.
2. Jim said he also met with Mary Yuskis who is part of the Early Childhood Collaborative of Southington. He said they talked about the ways that STEPS and ECC can possibly work together.
3. Jim said that there was a request from the Chamber of Commerce looking for students who might be interested in helping out at the Wing Fest that is coming up at the Aqua Turf . He said that the event raises money for Adopt-A-Family and coordinates through Community Services. The event is on the 17th of this month.
4. Mark Pooler said that tomorrow is Election Day and we have two great choices here around the table for town council, Chris Palmieri and Tom Lombardi.
5. Mark also said that next Wednesday is Veteran's Day and the YMCA is hosting a free meal for Veteran. If you are interested or know someone who is please RSVP by the end of the week.

Next Board meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 7, 2015 at 4:30 p.m. in the Southington YMCA Administrative Building Meeting Room.

Meeting adjourned at 5:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Meredith Fenwick