

Columbia County Connects Coalition Meeting Minutes

September 10, 2010

In Attendance: Kim Biehl, Jess Ritschke, Bob Harm, Nancy Schaper, Heather Stenberg, Klaude Thompson, Roger Brandner, Liz Miller, Anne Thompson, Karen Torgerson, Vicki Sukowski, Katie Duerst (SUSO), Karli Harsheider (SUSO), Mary Henrikson, Jenny Steingraeber, Tim Belleau, Meg McCullough, Paula Enger, Laurie Deakins

NEXT MEETING: October 8, 2010

Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 8:32 am. Chairperson for the meeting was Karen Torgerson. Introductions were made around the table.

Review Agenda

The agenda was reviewed. Additions: Meg will speak about new alcohol product and Jess will speak about Hope House.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the June minutes was made by Nancy and seconded by Liz. Minutes approved.

Summer Program

TALES

Tim presented on programs held during the summer. There was a slide show presentation on TALES (Teen Adventures Leadership Summit). Tim spoke about the students who attended and their accomplishments; t-shirt design, PSAs, marketing, presentations that they could take back to their schools. The Summit was an overnight event held at the MacKenzie Center in Poynette from noon on August 17 until noon of August 19. The students created a 30 second PSA which was played for the coalition members. Two of the students who attended spoke about the Summit and thanked the group for allowing the summit to happen. They appreciated the opportunity to be able to get together with students from other districts and the chance to be successful in their endeavors. There was representation from three school groups; Pardeeville, Portage, and SUSO. The SUSO group's advocacy plan centered on petitions on their Facebook page, fundraising plan is a Culver's 10% night, and their community service plans is to hold a Sr. Citizen Prom. Karli and Katie mentioned that they had fun playing the games and meeting students from other districts. Efforts are being made to recruit more students for next year's summit. The students will be taking what they learned and their plans back to their school youth groups.

3rd of July Parade

Nancy thanked Paula for the volunteering of her students to hand out parade schedules. The parade and the day were successful and will be repeated next year on July 2nd.

County Fair

The booth at the fair was staffed almost the entire time. Tim mentioned that there were citizens who signed up at the booth interesting in becoming coalition members or wanting to receive the newsletters. Tim also mentioned that next year there should be more members volunteering to staff the booth, which would cut back on costly staff time. Roger mentioned that a citizen, involved with a community 4-H program stopped at the booth. She asked if he would do a presentation on drugs to the students in the schools in her district. His presentation will include drug awareness and trends. Some of the coalition members talked about having Roger come to their schools to do a presentation.

Anne asked about the Teen Court brat fundraiser. Meg stated that it was a huge success. Discussion was focused on why and how successful it was. The feeling was that the e-mails that were sent out ahead of time made a huge difference.

Budget updates-Status of grants

Tim informed the coalition about the grants. The DPI grant ends June, 2011 and the DFC grant ends October, 2011. County grant funds were down this past year. We will know how much we'll receive for 2011 in December. The Partnership grant is done. Due to loss of funding, JUDO and Teen Court has had to trim some of its programming. He said that we will continue to look for future grants. This month we hope to find out about the Department of Education grant.

A sign up was sent around for members to sign up for the committee for the Asset Builders Celebration.

Culver's Day

Nancy mentioned that there weren't a lot of fundraisers during the summer and so she stopped in to see if a CCC fundraiser could be held. She informed members that there are dates available after October 11th from 4:00-8:00 pm. The best ways to advertise would be putting flyers on the trays at Culver's about 2 weeks before it would be advertised on the sign the same day, and e-mailing people. Students will be needed to help that day as well as an adult to supervise. The consensus among members was that November 1 would be the best date.

Tim circulated a letter from Pierce's regarding the local organizations awards club. Members were asked to choose CCC as their contribution.

Tim stated that our programs are successful in the county because of the relationships around the table.

New Alcohol Product

Meg talked about a new alcohol available 12% called Four Loko. It contains high alcohol content (12%) as well as hallucinogens. She talked about how dangerous the drink is (which is not banned in Wisconsin) and that it is sold in several places. Because of local laws, there is the issue of only being able to ban the drink locally, not statewide.

Vision

Tim shared some of the comments from the students at the summit. He also asked the members to look at the mission statement. Karen T. asked members if they felt the vision and mission statement were still adequate. Karli mentioned that she thought the statement was too broad; should be more focused on what is stated in the mission statement. It was felt that the vision statement should be clarified; more streamlined. It was suggested that members think about the vision and mission. A discussion about the statements will be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

County Elections

Recently conversations were held with two of the three candidates for sheriff to ask if they would be willing to attend coalition meetings. Tim felt that the newly elected sheriff should be invited to a future meeting. He asked if some of the members would be willing to meet with the newly elected sheriff should he be unable to attend. Members agreed that the invitation, or a special meeting, would be a good idea. Anne asked if a member of law enforcement would be available to report to the members about the latest drug trends. Roger stated that it was good idea and would talk to the sheriff. Discussion among members centered on the Poynette teen dance issue.

Hope House

Jess spoke about the Stewards of Children training that will be held in Columbus on September 21. She also mentioned that there is a sexual assault counselor available through Hope House if any of the school districts have a need.

Karen T. mentioned that the Wisconsin Dells Youth Futures is no longer a viable organization. The Wisconsin Dells Boys and Girls Club will be the recipients of the remaining Youth Futures monies.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is October 8.

Adjourn

Anne motioned to adjourn, Roger seconded. Meeting adjourned at 10:10 am.