



**MINUTES, GENERAL MEETING,
September 27, 2017, Pierson School Library**

ATTENDANCE:

Safe Members:

Natalie Federico, Youth, Representative
Hope Brindle, Youth, Representative
Alexandra Dudley, Youth, Representative
Christina Little, School, Pierson Psychologist
Paulette Orlando, Tobacco Action Coalition
Kathleen Werner, retired CASAC
Nancy Lynott, Southampton Youth Bureau, Government Rep
Thomas Pagano, Law Enforcement
John Oppenheimer, Healthcare Sector Rep.
Joan Dudley, parent
Beth Barth, Sag Harbor Youth
Barbara Bekermus, SHUFSD
Katy Graves, SHUFSD, School Rep.
Rebecca Burnside, Parent
Simon Harrison, Parent

Other:

SSgt. Carissa Siry, NGCDTF

Staff:

Danielle Laibowitz, Project Coordinator
Kym Laube, Project Director

Explanation of Sectors:

Kym Laube briefly explained the goals and history of SAFE in Sag Harbor. A federal grant was applied for and after the second submission, Sag Harbor was awarded a Federal Grant. SAFE is entering into the third year of the five year grant. A federal grant comes with requirements. One of the most important is that SAFE be run by the 12 sectors not a small, outside group. SAFE needs to make sure the 12 sectors are consistently in attendance and represented at the meetings and events. The idea behind requiring 12 sectors is to engage the community to come together to support changing community norms.

For example, John Oppenheimer is the Healthcare representative, Chief AJ McGuire is the Law Enforcement representative, and Katy Graves, Superintendent is the school representative. Certain sector reps are being contacted to assure they are still interested in representing their sector. The ownership of SAFE and its process is always in the group's hands (the 12 sectors). The grant money is to support environmental strategies and initiatives that are backed by the data and the goal of SAFE is to plan, organize, and assure that what is implemented is effective.

CIA:

Every sector is required to have at least one representative. The sector representatives need to sign a Coalition Involvement Agreement ("CIA"). Draft CIAs were distributed. The goal is to tailor the CIAs to the particular sector and the particular representative. The group needs to review them and get back to Danielle with any comments, questions and changes. A sector representative brings expertise in his/her sector to the group and can mobilize other members of that sector to action and impact the community. Upon review of the CIAs, if, as a sector rep with expertise, something is missing from the agreement, additions and revisions can be made at any time. The group was asked to peruse the CIAs and then contact Danielle with any changes this week.

Coordinator Report:

Danielle has been reaching out to prior sector rep members. She has contacted the pharmacy to involve the business community. She has reached out and plans on meeting other parents who have expressed interest. The group is missing representation from the Business and Youth Serving Organization.

John Oppenheimer explained the connection between the Sag Harbor Coalition and SAFE in Sag Harbor and recommended we think of the group gathered today as SAFE in Sag Harbor and the working group of the 12 sectors. It was asked why drug counselors and the recovery movement are not included as sector representatives. These community organizations and individuals are part of SAFE in Sag Harbor. Anyone can be a member of SAFE without signing an agreement. The agreements from 12 sectors give those representatives a vote in the process. A member who participates in Alcoholics Anonymous felt that members of the recovery community should come and speak with students.

Harborfest:

Danielle Laibowitz spent two days at a booth talking to people about SAFE and handed out little whales. She estimated speaking to about 300 people, adults and children. Overall, it was a very good experience and a good public relations event for SAFE. More often than not, people wanted to know what does SAFE in Sag Harbor do. Cheryl Rozzi got a prime location for the booth and spent the two days helping Danielle and introducing her to the Sag Harbor community. Two Youth members also stopped by to help. Future events should plan for sector members to be the face of SAFE in Sag Harbor. Approximately, \$500.00 was collected in donations.

A question was asked if there is a plan to combine with other East End communities. Kym Laube responded that there is a plan to bring all the police together from the various communities to collaborate. The police were part of an underage sales sting in the local community recently, the results of which were published in the local papers. Seven-Eleven was the only business that checked IDs and did not sell to underage individuals. Four other businesses were not compliant. SAFE in Sag

Harbor appreciates the police efforts and hopes that next year, fewer businesses will be non-compliant.

Kym described the surveys in which the school has participated. Two different surveys were administered: Youth Development Survey and OASAS survey. There are five years of data that help to highlight patterns and trends in our community. Although, there is often finger pointing that the school needs to do more, this is not a school problem: it is a community problem. A question was asked if there is a seasonal use of drugs and alcohol and the youth responded yes, in the winter when there is less to do, usage increases. They added that when the college students return to town in the summer, it becomes a big source of access to alcohol.

Youth – Presentation about CADCA Midyear – 11/06/17:

Six students attended the CADCA Midyear Training where coalitions from across the country (380 youth) came together to collaborate and learn new skills. They found it enlightening that no matter what type of community kids came from, they all shared similar concerns and problems. They learned that nothing is going to happen quickly and that it takes time for your projects to come to fruition. A member asked what is an example of a plan: the youth said it would be something like Sticker Shock. At the conference, they analyzed data and discovered access to alcohol came directly from parents. They learned to process the survey information and planned some strategies for community change using a logic model. The big question was, “How do we begin to change policy; laws and norms in your community?” There were 3,000 participants in total.

The group discussed how important it is to attract the parents of elementary school children because the education and modeling has to start young. Children need to see parents and siblings making healthier choices when they are stressed.

Future Projects:

Red Ribbon Week: How do we make this a community event and also support the school? SAFE is partnering with HUGS to bring in Dan Ochiogrosso, who uses his basketball skills, to engage students. He will address the middle school students to help them understand how to make good choices even if it's not the popular choice. SAFE, HUGS and the High School, are looking into having Matt Bellace come in to talk to the high school students about natural highs. Engaging youth to do some activities out in the community is a good strategy, as is helping to educate business owners about the responsibility they have in the community.

The PTSA, SAFE and the school will work together so that these efforts and programs continue past Red Ribbon Week.

OASES documentary:

On Wednesday, October 18th, SAFE has secured Bay Street theater from 7-9 pm for the showing of the documentary “Reversing the Stigma”, an hour-long documentary made by OASAS, New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services.

The event will include a panel discussion, a Director from OASAS will be part of the panel. Everyone is welcome. Please help SAFE get as many people to participate.

Drug Take Back Day:

Chief McGuire is going to do a drug take back day to help reduce access to prescription and over the counter drugs. It is planned for October 28th. One proposed site for the day is the Firehouse. There is always a bin at the Police Station for community members to dispose of their medications. SAFE is looking into a nice giveaway for the event, if anyone has any thoughts on what would be good, please let Danielle know. w

BUI event:

SAFE needs to look at micro-communities within Sag Harbor. An important micro-community is the boating community. Boating under the Influence is a BUI. While at the booth during Harbor Fest, Danielle spoke with two members of the volunteer Coast Guard. They told her that at Harbor Frost, there is a boat safety event. SAFE is considering partnering and planning an event at Harbor Frost.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm

Thursday, October 26th is the next meeting.