

Attachment to Coalition Meeting Minutes

SAFE in Sag Harbor

Meeting minutes 5/20/2020

This meeting was held via Zoom at 6:00 pm.

Attending were: Rebecca Burnside (Parent), Tanya Rulon-Miller (Parent), Cheryl Rozzi (Youth Serving Organization), Karin Schroeder (Civic/Volunteer Organization), Eileen Moskowitz (Religious), Christina Little (School), Carissa Cantone (NYS Counterdrug Task Force), Sean Cassidy (NYS Counterdrug Task Force), Mary-Ellen Adams (Long Island Prevention Resource Center, Nancy Lynott (State/Local Agency), Paulette Orlando (Tobacco Action Coalition), Georgianna Dolan-Reilly (Long Island Prevention Resource Center), Gabriel Manzueta (NYS Counterdrug Task Force), Deacon Dzierzawski (Epiphany Community Services), Kym Laube (Project Director), Meerah Shah (Project Coordinator)

Updates

Upcoming training for Coalition members - The CADCA midyear conference will be held virtually July 27 through 30; registration is about \$400 per person. The schedule is not yet released, but the training will be conducted in 3 hour sessions. This will be a good opportunity for those who can't travel in the summer. Those interested in participating should reach out to Meerah.

Advocacy opportunity- The group discussed the information CADCA sent out about the recent Saturday night live skit called "Let Kids Drink". This skit portrayed alcohol use by children and youth of all ages as a good coping strategy for kids and parents. CADCA has drafted a form letter to NBC for those who want to speak out about their concerns. Meerah will send us the template and we just have to sign it and send it on to Saturday Night Live.

Funding application - Final touches are being put on the DFC grant proposal; adding a few Sag Harbor community touches. The next stage of the project, years six through ten, is when we are really meant to lay down long lasting policy changes.

COVID-19 impact

Alcohol purchase policies - The group discussed the changes in alcohol sales in the current shutdown period related to preventing the spread of COVID-19. Kym asked the different sectors for their views. Concern was expressed about why liquor stores were deemed "essential services". Comments that were made were that in other states you could just go to the grocery store to get alcohol, creating an unfair market, so how do New York businesses compete? Also, one of the reasons that alcohol is available for sale is that it would put a large number of people into detox without adequate access to healthcare.

Kym also brought up the policy change in New York allowing restaurants to sell alcohol with pick up and delivery food orders. There is no limit to the size of the alcohol you can buy with your order; local businesses are selling full bottles of alcohol. Now that this is policy, can we put it back in the box when it's over or will restaurants always be able to sell alcohol with takeout food? Rebecca asked us to consider that restaurants survive on their sale of alcohol so we should consider that and be sensitive to that. People are trying to make a living.

Statistics available - 35% of the work at home workforce reports being under the influence while working. Alcohol sales are up over 250% in the latest reporting. Are these numbers skewed due to stockpiling? Also consider that we're not factoring in that people are not eating out at bars and restaurants so therefore more people are purchasing liquor at a liquor store.

Positive twist? - Rebecca mentioned that she feels that Sag Harbor residents are taking this opportunity to get fit and sees a lot of active people around town. It was suggested that we focus on the positives and not the negative. This could be a good time for a positive norms campaign.

Adolescent mental health - Coalition members are hearing young people sharing that it's OK to talk about mental health and it makes it easier to talk to kids about it in this difficult time. They are farther advanced than we were and are in terms of discussing this topic. Families are struggling and suicide rates are up.

Christina Little, school district psychologist, reported that it is difficult to report how the kids are doing. It's been hard to get the kids to meet with her and when they do it is often without video. Without seeing their faces it's really hard to understand how they're doing. Telehealth and other resources are being pooled to share with the parents and the students. How can we help support the students? Christina is also working on making a list with the middle school principal of resources for our students.

Nancy Lynott, Youth Bureau Director, mentioned that the flipside to increasing mental health struggles is that some youth who were struggling before the shutdown with social anxiety and family relationship issues are reporting doing better now, with less social pressures and more time with their families. Also, The DASH 24 hour crisis center is now open and the County's mobile crisis team is back in operation.

Maryellen from the Long Island Prevention Resource Center mentioned that she has info on resources for mental health and substance abuse treatment that were available at her local library, Kym announced that the longislandaddictionresourcecenter.org website is now live with a comprehensive list of Long Island resources; she will share the list with the Coalition. Please share it. You can also download a PDF of it.

Community Scan

Carissa from the National Guard Counterdrug Task Force spoke about the community scan that was conducted on May 12. She polled all 41 active liquor licenses in our area, including how they were advertising. Reduced prices of 30 to 50% off alcohol were advertised at many restaurants. Everything in town displays advertising like the liquor stores. The American Hotel is even selling cigars to go. She went to look at vaping products vendors also. If you go to [Juul.com](http://Juil.com) you can find licensed retailers; the Sag Harbor Variety Store and Cove Deli are both shown as retailers that sell vape products. Carissa discovered that neither one of them were selling vapes.

It was suggested that we should go back to the businesses with our stickers and signage again. Carissa has a presentation with all of the information that will be sent to us.

Insert Nielsen website here. ??

Public Service Announcement Projects

Radio PSA - The radio PSA does not appear to have been aired. We sent it in but nobody has heard it. We sent it to them on a Friday and wanted it aired by Monday and it didn't happen. We should plan further in advance for future PSA's.

Facebook - Infographics were posted on Facebook daily related to prevention week. There was good feedback related to these posts, and they were frequently cross shared. Meerah heard from a Sag Harbor parent that her son was using the data to do more research.

Deterre bag PSA - Kym will work on a PSA regarding the Deterre bags and how to use them.

Video PSA - Regarding the video PSA that we created on social host laws, Eileen reported that she saw a not-for-profit showing a video at a Regal theater. They told us they couldn't do that. She got more information on the non-for profit to see how it was that they broke through. We're wondering what our other display options are for a new PSA. Ideas for a new PSA were discussed. We would like one that projects what our mission is. Who are we? Maybe a gallery of images, get our faces out there and associate our work with our logo and our name. Looks like there will be a lot of outdoor style movies this summer. Can we show our PSA before the outdoor movies? This would likely have to be the one we've already made as we would be limited in time to create a new one now, or can we get together to create a new one now? We would need to share photos of things that we've been a part of and we should look through what we have and forward them on to Eileen. The phrase "stay safe" is becoming the norm. Can we use that in our PSA message? What does safe mean to you? What do we think when people say stay safe? We need to re-create the PSA task force to start work on this project.

Training and Education initiatives

In School instruction - HUGS, Inc. push in Life Skills Training classes in the school halted when school closed. Staff are working on another tool or online classes, but all the options they've found so far haven't gone through data testing, so they're looking for other options.

Senior gift - For our gift to seniors we need to focus on something that ties to our mission.

Wrapped flowers will be donated from the florist, if we want them, perhaps we can add that to a journal. Rebecca, Meerah, Karin and Cheryl will form a committee to make final decisions on the senior gift project. Tanya suggested we do something for the eighth graders as well to mark their graduation to high school.

Community education activity - Do we want to do a virtual community event in the future? Team Dynamics can work with us to come up with a virtual event for the summer if we want to do that. The general consensus was to wait until the fall. Those interested in learning more about these programs can join HUGS' pop music bingo.event on Friday, May 22 at 7:30 PM.

Vaping Task Force report

The Coalition is celebrating a big victory in terms of vaping in New York State. Recent legislation outlaws the sale of all flavored vaping products. In a related move, pharmacies can no longer sell any tobacco products, including cigarettes and e-cigarettes.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting is June 16, 202 at 6:00 PM via Zoom.