



ATTENDANCE:

Sector Representatives:

Karin Schroeder, Civic/Volunteer Rep., President
Maria Pentcheva-Burns, Healthcare Representative
Tracy Kolsin, Youth Org Rep, Southampton Youth Bureau
AJ McGuire, Law Enforcement Rep, Chief of SHVPD

Other: Georgianna Dolan-Reilly, Long Island Prevention Resource Center
Carrisa Siry, National Guard CounterDrug Task Force

Staff:

Randy Hansen, SAFE in Sag Harbor Program Coordinator
Alexandria Migliozi, SAFE in Sag Harbor Youth
Coordinator

1. Introductions

2. Sag Harbor Village Police Department Update

Chief McGuire shared updates regarding substance use amongst the youth in Sag Harbor. He said that he and Brittany Carriero, Pierson Principal, talk often about the most pressing issues that they both see. He often serves as the school resource officer, as he has two kids in the school.

He said that opiates seem to be less of an issue amongst the high school students. Vaping is the biggest issue that he sees. He has been in communication with Dave Falkowski about vape cartridges and checking to see if vape cartridges have THC in them. He says that the school can be more closed off when sharing information about substance use among students.

There was a fentanyl-related overdose death in East Hampton, May 4, 2022.

The village police department is working with a new organization that will properly dispose of dropbox medications properly. This organization is grant funded, and will allow the police department to dispose of the medications without the fees that they usually are charged. They ship the dropped off medications via Fedex.

He said that they don't see a lot of illicit drug use, but there is still likely some, especially in the summer months with the tourist season. There are fewer drug arrests than when he started.

About 2 years ago, pre-pandemic, there was a gas station selling alcohol to underage kids. They did a "bust" and it seemed to get better for a while.

In the East Hampton School District nicotine addiction has been a real problem. Rather than suspending students, they are connected with Family Service League to attempt to help them with the nicotine addiction. Georgianna says it is the Teen Intervene program. Karin mentioned that a teacher at Pierson noticed one of the students was in nicotine withdrawal and referred to SAFE postcards.

It seems like a lot of vapes and supplies are being sold through Snapchat. The department is looking more into this issue now. It seems the same gas station that was selling alcohol to underage kids, may now also be selling vapes to underage kids. The police department is going to start to underage vape stings.

Carrisa asked about Delta 8 and Delta 10. Chief McGuire said he hadn't seen it, but that didn't mean it wasn't happening. Carissa said that during COVID they started to see Delta 8 and 10 vapes pop up in flavors, which will still be illegal even though cannabis is now legal.

3. Drug Take Back

Karin recorded a PSA on Drug Take Day advertising that medications can be returned to the Village Police Department or the Sag Harbor Pharmacy at any time. It has been playing on WLNG pretty often the last week or so.

We discussed the possibility of doing an in-person Drug Take Back. It has probably been five years since the last one. After much discussion, the coalition decided it would be best to pair with another community event.

4. Approval of March and April Minutes

Karin motioned to approve the minutes, and Maria seconded the motion.

5. Open Gym Recap

Open gym has been going well. On April 29th, there were about 20 kids. American Pie Pizzeria donated six pizzas. We had more water and snacks. The next Open Gym date will be June 3, before the end of the school year. We should include that there will be food in the flyer.

Tracy has heard from a Pierson student and parent, that they really like Open Gym and are interested in the youth coalition.

It would be nice for there to be places for the kids to sit and hang out. Maybe the trainers room would be available?

It might be good to do a middle school night and a high school night.

Tracy suggested diversifying the activities. They have had good success with video games.

A focus group of Pierson students about what they would like to see at Open Gym would be helpful! How could we incentivize?

6. Mental Health Month Event

On May 14th, SAFE will be holding a Mindfulness and Mental Health Awareness Event on the Pierson back field from 11-12:30pm. There will be yoga and smoothies. This will be an initial event to recruit for the youth coalition.

Kristin Dehler and Kristin Davies will be leading the activities. Registration going out Monday.

Maria is going to make some mental health resources about resilience.

7. Pierson Youth Development Survey

Randy has been working with Brittany and Deacon to get some questions added to the Youth Development Survey that will be given to all grades by the end of May. Georgianna shared that we can add ten questions to the survey and will send a copy of the survey to Randy.

8. Westhampton Beach Coalition

Karin has been in contact with some people from Westhampton who is interested in starting to get their coalition back up and running. Karin shared what we have been doing that has been working. She said that doing things in the community, rather than just through the school has worked for the coalition. It is important to utilize the sectors to cast a wide net.

We should invite him to our next meeting. We can refer him to the LIPRC (info@liprc.org) and Carrisa (carrisaann@optonline.com)

9. Pierson's Got Talent

Pierson's PTSA is hosting a talent show for the first time since 2019. Charging a fee to go to the show, and they will have a silent auction and concessions. They want popcorn. Would it be possible for SAFE to donate popcorn and bags? Cheryl will donate her popcorn machine. SAFE will provide popcorn and bags.

They are still struggling to get enough acts and trying to think of ways to incentivize students to participate. Someone recommended looking in the community, as many are very generous. Someone suggested The Club House for gift cards.

10. End of School Year

With the end of the school year coming up, we explored ways that SAFE could be involved that supports our message. Several years ago we were involved in the Prom red carpet. This year's Prom is May 26th. Georgianna shared that other coalitions have done car giveaways (!) or touch up stations. Kids have to take the bus from the school to and from the Prom, which is in Montauk. The coalition liked the idea of a primping station, with mirrors, combs, mints, chapsticks, bobby pins, etc. Karin was going to bring it up to the PTSA, who would then need Brittany to approve it. As of today, May 11th, this is approved.

11. Next Meeting Dates

We discussed what the meeting cadence should look like in the future. Meeting in person has benefits, but is not always as convenient for people. For the summer the coalition will continue meeting via Zoom. From there, the coalition will meet once per quarter in-person. Lots of events towards the end of the summer: Sticker Shock, Overdose Awareness, Recovery Month, Back to School, etc.

Next meeting June 9, 2022 at 6pm.