

Executive Committee Meeting MINUTES

August 16, 2017 White Brook Middle School Library 5:00-6:30 pm



Topic/Goal/	Description/Action	Next Steps/by whom
Strategies		
Welcome	Present: Tammy K, Ruth E, Corinne B, Stephen L, Lois L, Laurie L	
and Minutes	Regrets: Gail, Cherry, Albie, Julie Anne	
Review	Approved July minutes.	
Building		
Capacity	UPDATES:	Evanyone should think shout
	Finance Committee & EC recruitment: Ruth reported that Tricia reached out to FSBank manager and although he was very supportive of our work, could not commit to being part of the Finance Committee at this time. We will need to find members elsewhere.	Everyone should think about people to recruit for both EC and finance.
	Compliance Checks: Corinne is working with Tammy and Dennis at police dept and are planning to do a check this month.	Ruth and Corinne will
	Parent Survey: we've gotten 78 responses so far, still doing more outreach and will extend deadline to mid September to get more parents after school starts up.	continue to post on facebook and send out notices and info at beginning of school
	Parent Engagement Team and EC meeting times: The EC will meet on Sept. 13 since our usual date is a Jewish holiday. The Parent engagement group can meet on the 27 th .	Ruth will send out updates and invitations

Preventing Underage Use

1. Planning Board report out from Ruth who attended on August 1: Ruth shared that about 20 people were there and many people spoke including Chuck McCullough from Williston-Northampton school, and Greg Rolland a community activist, along with several potential marijuana (MJ) businesses owners and Marty Klein (marijuana 'expert' who leads workshops) and Dick Evans, the lawyer who chaired the Yes on 4 campaign, and Salem Derby, who is strongly in support of having MJ be available in town and believes it can be a positive impact on city but also supports protecting youth.

Policy workgroup should try to meet (Stephen). The coalition can submit a letter or recommendation for best practices for towns. Ruth will talk to other groups to see if that exists.

Among the topics discussed by board and general points:

- --downtown would work better for sales, but mills areas could be for growing too --using on site (like cafes and bars) could be challenging for things like driving drugged,
- but most people don't seem concerned about this (there were no police or medical experts in the room to counter these (mis)perceptions.
- --alcohol and MJ don't seem like a good idea to have both on site
- --there shouldn't be a need to limit licenses issued/stores etc as supply and demand will regulate this and naturally limit them.
- --Several members expressed delight at the idea of Easthampton becoming a MJ destination city.
- --Signage is important; there shouldn't be a need for big, garish signs like neon MJ leaves, as that attracts youth more than adults and so there is no need for it. Medical MJ was already regulated to be 200 ft from schools, so there should be no need to change that now. Easthampton has schools very close to downtown, so unrealistic to think they should be farther away (regulate it like alcohol, which is also in town).

--MJ should be regulated like alcohol and not have more restrictions or stronger restrictions on it.

Ruth ended up speaking on behalf of the coalition, mostly focusing on urging the board to keep youth perspective on this, how any decisions will impact youth and to take action where they can on things like advertising to minimize youth exposure. She was asked about idea of MJ only being sold in 21+ stores, which she pointed out would be a good way to minimize youth exposure.

2. Hampshire HOPE is starting their safe storage campaign, which we will then build on or customize for Easthampton. This will be brought to the parent engagement team when it meets next month.

Next meeting: Wed. Sept. 13? (9/20 is Jewish holiday)