

Executive Committee Meeting MINUTES

March 15, 2017 EHS 3rd floor Conference Room 5:00-6:30 pm



| Topic/Goal/ Strategies | Description/Action | Next steps by whom |
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| Welcome and Minutes Review | Present: Lois Levin, Laurie Loisel, Stephen Linsky, Julie Anne Levin, Shannon Hicks, Tricia Dandrea, Ruth Ever, Corinne Briggs Regrets: Gail Cannon, Susan Welson, Albie Park, Cherry Sullivan, Tammy Kaleta, Al Schadel Chair: Lois Levin Minutes by: Corinne Briggs February EC minutes were approved | |
| | Cultural Awareness exercise – due to time constraints, there was no exercise. It was decided that each month committee members would rotate coming up with an activity for the meeting. | Laurie – will bring an idea for next meeting |
| Building Capacity | A restructuring proposal was drafted by Ruth and Corinne based on previous discussions. This outline was reviewed and feedback was given. The proposal highlights upcoming projects where project teams would be formed to work on: End of school programs ("Parents Who Host, Lose The Most" campaign, Graduation night party) Parent Cafes Conversation Starter Cards Policy Team (Sticker Shock campaign to raise awareness of not buying alcohol for minors, Alcohol Review board statewide will be holding hearings) A Full Coalition meeting will be held at the EHS on Tuesday, April 25 from 6-8 pm with dinner and childcare. We need to think about how best we can use our time at the full Coalition meeting and how we | Ruth – will organize a planning |

| | can bring new members in. Maybe just work on Conversational Starter Cards and have information on the other projects. We may also want to format this meeting as follows: begin with information about the coalition, quick updates, a short presentation about MJ (invite someone to present on regulations, legislation – anything focused on protecting youth), then attendees will break into project teams and begin working. An invitation will be extended to EC members, Parent Work Group members, Policy team members, facilitators and grads of SFP and Easthampton parents/guardians. "We're working on these projects. Come help us." is our message. EC members will break into the separate groups to help welcome and facilitate. This meeting will be promoted on FB, in the Newsletter and at <i>Screenagers</i> (have sign in so we can follow-up with everyone, EC Members will wear tshirts or buttons "ask me about" and an announcement will be made to generate excitement and interest). All invited will be encouraged to bring a friend. Future meetings will be scheduled as needed by project teams. A Data Team will need to be formed as well. Goal will be to organize over the Summer. The team will need to present data before Year 5 Fiscal year which begins Oct. 1. Julie Anne received feedback that staff want access to the data so that they can share it with the PLC (Professional Learning Committee) and incorporate it into their work. Julie Anne spoke with Nancy Follansbee and she is on board with this. 2. In an effort to improve the EC chair's role and smooth operations, Ruth proposed having one chair consistently for a few meetings (3 or 6). Ruth also believes that a coalition chair is important in helping to carry the Coalition forward and presents a stronger Coalition to the community. An EC chair would also help alleviate some meeting prep and follow-up work currently done by staff. Additionally, a coalition chair will be important for the upcoming full coalition meeting. These can be different people. | meeting for the Full Coalition meeting Ruth – will find a speaker for the 4/25 meeting Corinne – will create sign- in sheet for Screenagers & will promote the 4/25 meeting in the event program by including specifics on what will be discussed Ruth, Corinne, Nancy and Julie Anne meet to discuss workload division Tricia has volunteered to co-lead the 4/25 meeting with Ruth |
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| Preventing Underage Use | 1. The Parent Council (now called EHS STARS) has invited us to partner with them to help at the all night grad party at EHS Saturday, June 3. Volunteers are needed the night of the event (particularly between 2-5AM) to supervise a small group/activity. Financial assistance is also needed. STAR will not host this event unless they get more help. Stephen has offered to volunteer from 2-5AM. | |
| | The event will be held in the EHS building, but is not a school sponsored event. Security and custodial personnel will be there. It was agreed that support for this program is in line with our mission. The EC voted to help the STAR Council by offering \$500 and promoting it to recruit volunteers. This would have to come from carry over. | Stephen- will relay back to Bonnie at STAR |

If the EC later determines the event is still in great need, we can consider offering an additional \$250. The budget for this event has previously been \$2000-3000. The Coalition has agreed to help advertise this volunteer opportunity at *Screenagers*, etc.

Ruth – will notify Susan Ryan

2. Parents Who Host, Lose The Most campaign Need help to roll out (put out lawn signs, etc). Will discuss further at Full Coalition meeting.

3. Marijuana

- a. Stephen attended the City Council Ordinance meeting on March 8. There were only 2 committee members and 2 attendees. It was discussed that the Council should work with the Planning Board. JP thought the city should be prepared to act. They are reporting back tonight (3/15) at the City Council meeting.
- b. Stephen attended Mass Municipal Assoc. training for municipalities on MJ Stephen attended "The New Marijuana Law-The Municipal Role (How Municipalities Can and Should Respond)" on March 10 at Clark University. According to Stephen, this was a great program and well attended. It was a full agenda too much to cover in such a short time. Towns are taking action eg. Westborough voted for an opt-out. Other towns are voting moratoriums. Springfield just got one. Easthampton should think more along the lines of 20% limitation, rather than a total opt-out. That would be 2 pot shops as compared to a total opt-out. Many anticipate that the dispensaries will turn commercial (we already have one). Stephen proposes we think about how we want to define our role. We want to project that we are here to assist the City in protecting youth.
 - c. City Council ordinance meeting tonight (3/15). Stephen will attend and report back.
 - d. We have discussed finding allies and building relationships in the community with businesses, other schools, etc., but we have not taken action.

Should prioritize talking to Marty Klein who speaks about growing marijuana. Would he help us in educating on safe storage? We should also meet with the owners of the Head Eaze shop. It will be imperative to come up with consistent talking points. The Policy Team could make this a top priority. Stephen is going to the upcoming SPIFFY Policy/Laws and Norms Workgroup meeting. We may be able to use something from this meeting. This needs to be done quickly and speaking points should be simple (4-5 speaking points about the youth). We understand that the City sees these shops as a source of revenue, which doesn't mean we can't also be prioritizing protecting youth from access.

4. *Screenagers*. CHD, Florence Savings Bank, Taylor Real Estate, Easthampton Police Association, Hampshire Pediatrics and the South Hadley Drug and Alcohol Prevention Coalition are all sponsoring this event.

We are still trying to find someone to facilitate the discussion after the evening showing. A professor or pediatrician would be a good facilitator to encourage a discussion among the attendees. Anyone at UMass?

Head of Psychology Dept. at Springfield College? Dr. Jaffe from Smith College runs Health Services. Maybe he would be interested? Ruth did ask the EHS guidance counselor. Maybe Shannon and Sue Welson can do this together? Teachers will facilitate the discussions following the in-school viewing on March 24.

WGBY wants to do a 6-8 minute interview for Connecting Points next week. Ruth would like to do it with someone to discuss impact on the teen brain, etc. Shannon has background with substance abuse and has offered to do this with Ruth.

5. *Talk. They Hear You* campaign—sample postcards were distributed for review. The April postcard has an image of the avatar from the app. We have not tested the postcards in Easthampton, but this campaign has been tested. The postcards will be sent out in March, April, May, June to 4-8th graders. Extra postcards and table tents can be placed at banks, orthodontists, dentists, Antonios, Village Pizza, Mt. Toms and local pediatrician offices.

Ruth – will send more information & discussion guide to Shannon and Sue

There is a Talk. They Hear You. song we will play before Screenagers.

6. COSA: Council of Social Agencies

Great networking opportunity. It is little removed from what we do, but could be helpful in getting our word out as this is a place where a lot of non-profits go. Ruth may join depending on cost and available carryover money.

Ruth – will find out how much it costs

Next meetings:

There is <u>no meeting</u> 4/19, but any available EC members will get together for a daytime meeting in April to plan the Full Coalition Meeting.

Ruth – send a doodle to schedule meeting 3/24 at noon or 3/31 or 4/13?

Wed. May 17 – EHS 3rd floor conference room at 5pm

Wed. June 21

Skip July?

Wed. August 16?