

MAYOR'S DRUG and ALCOHOL ABUSE TASK FORCE

November 4, 2010

6pm-8pm

Franklin Regional Hospital Meeting Room

Attendees:

Melissa and Edward Cogan, Danielle Barker, Joe Giunta, Melissa Rizzo, Tyler Davis, Lynn Haskell, Cotrina Costella, Suzan Caldon, Jaime Powers, Chief Goldstein, John Kontoes, Jason Vezina, Manager Dragon, Mayor Merrifield, Charles Carter, Dr. Strang, Bill Grimm.

Bill Grimm introduced our guest speaker, Franklin Hospital ER Doctor David Strang.

Dr. Strang confirmed that prescription drug abuse is on the rise and methodone is the top killer. He discussed the need for a prescription drug monitoring program in NH, and that he had personally worked on this with legislators in the past. 2/3 of all US states have some form of prescription monitoring.

The Mayor asked if we could be supplied the text of the previously submitted bill, in case we can get sponsors in the new Legislature.

Dr. Strang discussed the fact that 80% of prescribed drugs can be diverted to street use, and that Vicodin is the #1 abused medication from schedule 3. Nevada has lots of very good data on the subject. Maine and Kentucky have legislation on the books.

Elizabeth covered other topics:

- The DFC Grant was accepted by the city council unanimously.
- Hiring process for a FT coordinator is underway
- There is a required trip to DC for the Mayor and Manager
- Partnerships with CCNTR on marketing
- K2 / Spice ban is in draft form and headed to the city council

Kyle talked about problems at Franklin High and the Chief read from the diary of a meth addict. In efforts to de-criminalize drug use, society is in fact making abuse legitimate.

The meeting adjourned at about 8pm.