

Franklin Mayor's Drug Task Force

Meeting Minutes

July 12, 2012

5pm; Franklin Regional Hospital

Attendee	Sector Represented
Ken Merrifield	Mayor, Local Government
Bob Lucas	Franklin resident/Civic Organization
Jason Vezina	Parent
Joe Giunta	State Elks Association/Fraternal Organization
Chief Goldstein	Franklin PD/Local Agency with expertise in Substance Abuse
Bill Grimm	LRGH Trustee/Healthcare
Elizabeth Dragon	City Manager, Local Government
Melissa Rizzo	LRGH/Healthcare
Amanda Snyder, LADC	Phoenix House/Other organization involved in reducing substance abuse
Michael Major	Healthcare/Private Counseling
Sara Tracy	City Welfare Director
Marie Breckinridge	Franklin High School
Traci Fowler	Coalition Coordinator

Mission Statement: The Franklin Mayor's Drug Task Force's mission is to mobilize citizen involvement and multi-sector collaboration to foster a healthy community environment with norms, policies and practices that *work together* to promote the positive and drug and alcohol free development of all Franklin and Hill youth and families.

Agenda Items

- **Welcome, Introductions and Sign-in**
- **Quick Community Updates**
- **Get comfortable ... it's Movie Time! We will be watching a video entitled "*Student Drug-Testing Programs: Separating Fact from Fiction*". This video was produced by The Student Drug Testing Coalition, Inc. For more information : www.studentdrugtesting.org**

Questions:

(1) **Pros/Cons: Do we want to pursue Student Drug Testing as part of our ATOD School Policy recommendations?**

(2) **If so, what are our next steps?**

- **Next Steps/Task Assignments**

- **Welcome, Introductions and Sign-in**

- **Quick Community Updates**

- Franklin Farmer's Market opening for the season!! Starts July 10th, from 2-5pm on the front lawn of Franklin Regional Hospital. Please make a point to attend in support of this endeavor.
- 4th Annual Odell Park Celebration and Chicken BBQ!! Friday, August 10th 2pm -6pm. Lots of fun, games and music for the whole family. This is a fundraising event for Odell Park Centennial Project.

- **Get comfortable ... it's Movie Time! We will be watching a video entitled "*Student Drug-Testing Programs: Separating Fact from Fiction*". This video was produced by The Student Drug Testing Coalition, Inc. For more information : www.studentdrugtesting.org**

Jason researched and found this video, and we agreed that it would be good for the group to watch it before making any decisions. The video is very informative and really emphasizes that student drug testing is NOT about punishment, but it is about being a deterrent for students. There are many steps in creating a student drug testing policy, and obviously a lot of upfront legwork is needed to make sure that it is successful. Training for school staff is a big piece, as well as contracting with a 'Licensed Medical Review Officer'.

Questions:

(1) Pros/Cons: Do we want to pursue Student Drug Testing as part of our ATOD School Policy recommendations?

While we think this is something that would be really beneficial to our school, we do not know if the school is ready to implement such a major program. What are the school ATOD policies currently? Are they being enforced? They current policies are not comprehensive enough and seem to not be consistently enforced. It might be good to first talk about making the ATOD policies more comprehensive, and the next hurdle is HOW can we make sure they are enforced?

We have to get parent and community support if we are going to make any change in the current ATOD policy.

What about home drug testing kits for parents? Maybe this is something we can purchase and hand out to parents who are interested. Might be a good way to get the word out about drug testing. Would the school be willing to have these at the nurses' office?

(2) If so, what are our next steps? A meeting with the Superintendent would be a good first step. Traci will follow-up with Dr. Ward to see if she would be willing to watch the video, and then have a conversation about how we can start working on this.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, August 9th at 5pm

Questions? Please email: tfowler@franklinnh.org