



Franklin Mayor's Drug Task Force Meeting Minutes

July 10, 2014

Present: David Goldstein, Traci Fowler, Bob Lucas, Rick Frost, Jason Vezina, Bill Grimm, Mike Hoyt, Tamara Feener, George Dzujna, Rich Masters, Sara Tracy, Ken Merrifield, Angela Lynch, Melissa Rizzo, Scott Burns, Christine Dzujna

Agenda Item 1: Ken opened the meeting and thanked everyone for coming. He gave a special welcome to Angela, our new Task Force Coordinator. Today was her official first day on the job. Everyone was given the opportunity to go around the room and introduce themselves. A special welcome to Rich Masters from Watts Water Technologies; He gave a brief description of the problems they are facing at Watts due to substance abuse issues such as failing of drug screens and pre-employment testing. He said that Watts would like to become involved in the solution.

Agenda Item 2: Ken gave his "Mayor's Minute" and included a statistic that those who visit the ER once a year or less have a very low instance of being affected by substance abuse issues. However, the likelihood that someone who visits the ER 20 times a year or more has a substance abuse problem is greatly increased. They have an increased involvement in illegal drug use and substance abuse in general. This leads to healthcare costs, affects our education system, local workplace issues, productivity in the workplace and society, etc. Thus, it affects the entire community.

A brief discussion followed on Workplace strategies and how to deal with some of these issues. Watts recently went smoke free. We discussed this impact on the workforce, etc. Sara then mentioned that many lower income housing units are choosing to be smoke free properties.

Agenda Item 3: The meeting was then turned over to Sgt. Rick Frost to guide us in an overview of the benefits of working in smaller task/workgroups to keep everyone engaged and play to the strengths and interests of membership. He stressed that we "Can't help others unless we help ourselves". This is in reference to our two coalition goals. We can't make an impact on substance abuse use (goal 2) if we don't have a healthy functioning coalition (goal 1). Sgt. Frost led the group through the attachment which goes into greater detail about the function of the workgroups. He highly stressed that if we follow this model, it would put us in great shape when it comes time to do our reapplication to DFC shortly. He directly correlated work of the subgroups to grant questions/objectives. This will help us write our narrative and cover all our bases. After the discussion Sara T. noted that she had recently reviewed our action plan and sees a direct connection between what Sgt. Frost is suggesting we do.

Agenda Item 4: Melissa Rizzo then introduced two upcoming Task Force activities and connected Sgt. Frost's discussion with our upcoming community efforts. First, we have a Drug Safety Talk at the TRIP Center on July 22nd at 11am for the senior audience. Next, our annual FACT performances take place on July 31st at 2&7pm at the Franklin Opera House. This is an opportunity to reach a lot of parents (maybe 200?) in one day. Thus, can we break out into three "mock" workgroups following our break and look at how we'd evaluate or collect data at these two events, how we'd recruit and retain at these events, and

how we'd use media to either promote or follow up on these events. We'll take fifteen minutes, brainstorm, and then come back to wrap up.

ICE CREAM Was Enjoyed by All!! Thanks Leadership Team!!

Agenda Item 5: Groups broke out and then came back together to report out. Sgt. Frost listed results on the board. Ken took some photos of the results. Great discussion was had in regards to how at future meetings this process might take much less time and could even happen in ways that we don't need to break out into groups. Eventually, you'll know if you're a "media" person to be thinking of media use as we're discussing upcoming initiatives, etc.

Results were as follows from the three breakout groups:

What Data are we collecting? How are we evaluating our involvement here?

- Collect info on demographics, number of attendees, what ages
- We could do a pre and post test of their knowledge or perception of harm/risk
- We could collect anecdotal information to be used for media, etc.
- For FACT we could continue to admin. Community Survey
- We have to decide what we want to know from a group of parents of young students
- How many people attended?
- Incentive to complete a survey for us

Recruiting and Retention –What are we doing to bring more people/organizations to the coalition?

- At TRIP we may not get folks who want to come to our meetings due to demographics
- FACT we can hand out our pamphlets and talk/invite people to come to a meeting
- We could have a table presentation with scrolling monitor w/ info and pictorial

Media- How are we helping to promote our involvement in this event?

- Important to know audience
- Target the caregivers network for the TRIP talk
- Promote event and follow up
- Radio/newsletter
- ASK the TRIP Center to promote
- Nametags for task force member present
- Use free papers
- FB page
- Twitter
- Press release after event...with " If your business or community group would like to host a similar event, please contact..."

Special thanks to Sgt. Frost for providing training for us tonight!

Save the Date for our August 14th meeting, 5-7pm at BRCC!

See attachments: Sgt. Frost's handout, photo taken by Ken Merrifield

