

Franklin Mayor's Drug Task Force
Leadership Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday June 12, 2014
5:00pm – 7:00pm

Present: Melissa Rizzo, Elizabeth Dragon, Bill Grimm, Mayor Merrifield, Joe Giunta, Jason Vezina sr., Bob Lucas, Sara Tracy, Angela Lynch, Ann Stark

Elizabeth Dragon welcomed everyone to the meeting and began introductions around the room. Ann Stark (CADY) is joining us tonight to talk about our tracking system and answer questions/take input. Elizabeth then Introduced Angela Lynch who has been selected as our next task force coordinator pending DFC approval. Angela volunteered to come this evening on her own time to meet the leadership team and begin learning more about the task force initiatives. Elizabeth talked about the Mid-Year CADCA training coming up in July and our hope that we have DFC hiring approval in time to send Angela for Strategic Prevention Framework training. We also hope to use Sgt. Frost for additional training sessions.

Tracking forms/info gather-

Elizabeth reviewed the tracking form prepared by CADY and explained that these forms are due the first of each month. There are several events that have happened over the last few months that we still need tracking forms completed on. The group had a discussion with Ann about some possible improvements to the form and reviewed what type of events requires a tracking form. Elizabeth stated that Angela, as the coordinator, will be tracking down task force members in the future to make sure the forms are completed. Ann handed out a guideline explaining what should be tracked. Ann stated that she prefers hard copies vs. emails. The coordinator keeps a photocopy in the task force three ring binder by month and the activities are also tracked on an excel spreadsheet which is turned into the finance office to track in-kind match for the grant. The tracking form is available on the task force website.

Updates on recent events (Town Hall meeting & Bow Wow Ball)-

Melissa wanted to let the group know that Families Sharing Without Shame are no longer meeting in Franklin because they didn't feel their attendance was enough to support this location. However, they have approached Melissa about meeting at the Laconia hospital. The leadership team wondered if they had given the effort enough time to get the word out and grow the group before making this decision.

The leadership team then discussed "take aways" –lessons learned from both the Town Hall meeting & Bow Wow Ball.

- The Town Hall meeting had about 39 people attend. Everyone felt this was a good size group for our first town hall meeting. The team felt there were some good ideas during the discussion part of the town hall meeting. Specifically, the suggestion/invitation by the High School principal to share a message during half time of sporting events. Getting a target audience to attend a town hall meeting or any other meeting can be challenging... so why not bring our message to them. This is definitely something everyone wanted to pursue in the future. Also the leadership team discussed ways to better advertise events to our target audience (for example Head Start staff right here in Bessie Rowell were not aware of the meeting-this was a missed opportunity. In the future maybe sending home flyers in backpacks right in this building at both Head Start & Tiny Twisters). The timing of the meeting might not have been the best-it was in direct competition with "Shrek" at the Franklin Opera house which drew a large crowd. One minor note-make sure whoever is providing the food also includes drinks! We were lucky enough to borrow bottled water from the Franklin Recreation dept.

- Bow-Wow Ball-Ticket price was debated. It might have been too high keeping attendance down. This is something the group should evaluate before deciding on next year's event. Also there was discussion about whether or not we want to hold another formal event or should we consider something more casual like a BBQ or a Max Mixer? It depends on the audience we are trying to engage-an event is more than just a fundraiser- it is also an opportunity to build or strengthen relationships. It appeared everyone had a nice evening and the Bow Wow Ball was a success. Leadership members agreed the visit from K9 Max was a home run. In the future it would be great to do demonstrations of Max's capabilities once trained. The time of year was also discussed. May is a busy time of the year to hold an event however Mojalaki wasn't open until late April-early May and we were trying to get the event in before people get booked for the summer. Time of the year should be reviewed again for next year.

Fact Summer Theater-

The task force had received a request to sponsor Fact Summer Theater again. Elizabeth provided everyone with a copy of the letter & budget received from the Opera house. The group discussed how the first year we sponsored this event the task force coordinator worked with the FACT group on creating content around a drug free message. It seems we have gotten away from that over the last couple years. Given this request was planned to be received in May it seems late in the process this year. Therefore, instead we could share our message at the beginning of each show and/or intermission. We could also take the opportunity to talk about FYI to the parents in the room to try to build membership for next year. The leadership team agreed to support the sponsorship and let the opera house know that we would have preferred to participate in the actual content of the show. Also, leadership members wanted to make sure the Opera House knows that sponsorships are not in the approved DFC Drug task force budget. However, we had some funds available due to turnover of personnel and were able to support this initiative and the chem free after prom initiative. Therefore please do not depend on these funds being available again in the future.

FYI & School Activities, Teen Institute-

Melissa Rizzo explained that Jenn Sumner has resigned from her position as FYI advisor because her position at the school is changing. She is taking on more responsibilities and is not able to balance that with two small children at home. However, she did identify two ladies that could potentially be a great team at the high school and she said she would be happy to still be their liaison. Rebecca Grinavic from the Middle school has also been identified as a potential FYI Advisor. Bob Lucas thought this was a great solution; his only comment was that it would be nice to also identify male leaders as well to engage more of the male students.

Melissa explained that we have been trying to identify a group of advisors and students at both the high school and middle school to attend the Dover training session. This is still a work in progress.

Teen Institute-Melissa informed the group that we received 9 applications to teen institute this year! Yesterday she attended an assembly where she gave out five scholarships on behalf of the task force to freshmen and sophomores. The task force paid for four and received the fifth one free. It was made clear to the students receiving scholarships that it is our hope these students come back with ideas for FYI.

Evaluation Data in September- Katy Shea (our evaluator) will have data to present in September regarding our mini YRBS at the high school & middle school as well as our community survey results. Our DFC project coordinator is planning a NH visit in September. Therefore, it was suggested to

schedule our Sept task force meeting at a time when she can attend and have Katy present this information. It might be an interesting topic and show how we are results driven.

August Leadership retreat-Aug 18th-

The team confirmed August 18th from 9-noon at the hospital for our leadership retreat. Melissa will reach out to Deb Naro (CADY) and possibly Sgt Frost regarding their availability to lead us through some conversations and training.

The group would also like to review a copy of the most recently submitted comet report at the retreat. The leadership retreat will take the place of the Aug 7th leadership meeting.

Orientation of Angela Lynch-

Discussed earlier in the evening-we are hoping to send Angela to CADCA Midyear in July and then team her up with Sgt Frost & Traci Fowler for additional one on one training.

Distribution of Task force brochures-

Sara Tracy suggested Pizza chef. Pizza Chef has offered to highlight different task force initiatives as "food for thought" with their pizza boxes at different times of the year. This might be a way to reach more Hill residents. The group also discussed putting up brochures at Franklin Savings bank and possible sporting events.

Next meeting dates-

Wed July 2nd leadership meeting instead of July 3rd because of the July 4th holiday and people usually having extended plans.

July 10th will be the Regular task force meeting

Melissa Rizzo also announced the opportunity for any task force member to set up a booth at the farmers market through September.

Big thank you to Sara Tracy for providing snacks at tonight's meeting!!!

Meeting adjourned just after 7:00pm

Submitted by Elizabeth Dragon