



Franklin Mayor's Drug Task Force
 Task Force Meeting Minutes
 Thursday, August 11, 2016
 5:15pm – 7:00pm at Bessie Rowell Community Center

Present:

<i>Name:</i>	<i>Sector:</i>	<i>Name:</i>	<i>Sector:</i>
<i>Angela Balamuth</i>	<i>Coordinator</i>	<i>Jeanie Forrester</i>	<i>NH Senator</i>
<i>Melissa Lee</i>	<i>Healthcare</i>	<i>Ken Merrifield</i>	<i>Mayor, City of Franklin</i>
<i>Elizabeth Dragon</i>	<i>City Manager, City of Franklin</i>	<i>Joe Giunta</i>	<i>Religious/Fraternal Organization: Franklin Elks</i>
<i>Dawn Sanchez</i>	<i>Franklin Resident</i>	<i>Bob Grover</i>	<i>Franklin Resident</i>
<i>Jason Vezina</i>	<i>Parent</i>	<i>Ryan Smith</i>	<i>running for State Representative</i>
<i>Chief Goldstein</i>	<i>State, Local or Tribal Governmental Agency with Expertise in the Field of Substance Abuse</i>	<i>Karen Darling</i>	<i>Civic/Volunteer Group (Choose Franklin, Franklin Jr. Youth Group)</i>
<i>Kayleigh Ash</i>	<i>LRGHealthcare</i>	<i>Corey Gately</i>	<i>LRGHealthcare</i>
<i>Bob Lucas</i>	<i>Franklin Resident</i>	<i>Linda Backert</i>	<i>Franklin Resident</i>
<i>Kristen Cunningham</i>	<i>Hill Resident</i>	<i>Rev. Karen Heavey</i>	<i>Twin Rivers Interfaith Food Pantry</i>
<i>Marcia Feener</i>	<i>Franklin Resident</i>	<i>Barbara Olson</i>	<i>Franklin Resident</i>
<i>2 people arrived late & did not sign in</i>			

Angela welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. Angela then invited Chief Goldstein to introduce a special guest that has joined us this evening.

Special Guest: Senator Jeanie Forrester

Chief David Goldstein introduced a special guest that joined us this evening, Senator Jeanie Forrester. Senator Forrester thanked the group for being open to her joining us and explained that this “heroin issue” is a big issue that is continuously being asked about or brought up in NH. So she is interested in learning more about what we have been doing/what people can be doing as well as what is already happening. One thing that she has heard from others in that we need more prevention messaging and advertisements about why not to use/try drugs, the negative consequences and risks, having comprehensive drug education in all schools, etc.

Angela then briefly went over the guidelines of our coalition meetings, located on the back of the agenda:

Coalition Meeting Guidelines

- ✓ **RSVP**
- ✓ **Arrive Early/On Time**
- ✓ **Come prepared**
- ✓ **Limit use of electronics**
- ✓ **Please be courteous**
- ✓ **Keep your comments brief (under 2 minutes)**
- ✓ **One person speaks at a time; limit side conversations**
- ✓ **Don't be afraid to speak**
- ✓ **Please respond to action items**
- ✓ **Stick to the agenda timeframe**
- ✓ **Don't be afraid to practice self-care**

Those in the room then went around and did brief introductions.

Mavor's Minute

Whenever he talks about the history of this coalition, he talks about the wonderful volunteer effort that we have had since 2009. You feel this just by looking at the number of people who joined the meeting tonight, even though it is a beautiful evening. He then described that he wanted to acknowledge the coalition's one paid staff member, Angela Lynch. She's been with us for a couple of years now, she began as a part-time staff and quickly became a full-time position, has done a terrific job in her position. Being the paid staffer for this grant is really the key to keeping this all together and he thinks that Angela has done a terrific job and he thanks her. Angela, thanked Ken for his kind words.

Coalition Work Updates

Angela gave some coalition work updates: Angela posted a few of the posters created by our youth in the Franklin Youth Initiative (FYI) groups or as a project put on by FYI called a "Logo Lamppoon." More posters made by our youth are posted in the hallway. In July's meeting the group discussed an idea that they'd like to see happen where posters made by our youth regarding Marijuana and how it affects the developing brain at local retail locations, in the windows, and to especially look into those storefronts that are currently empty. Angela shared with the group that we have two volunteers willing to go around to local businesses and inquire and distribute posters on our behalf: Scott Burns and George Dzjuna. The group just needs to give feedback and help in determining what posters they'd like to use and/or if there is a gap where we'd like to locate some more/other posters (or have more made-though this will take some time to have completed). Melissa pointed out that we want to make sure that we are asking to have these up in the empty storefronts. Posters should have a clear and simple message. Someone asked about what if we get a complaint of some sort, and the general idea is that if we get a complaint, we will address it and not to worry about this fact. As long as we ensure that the signage posted is appropriate and clear, there shouldn't be an issue.

Angela also updated on some community events that the coalition has had representation at:

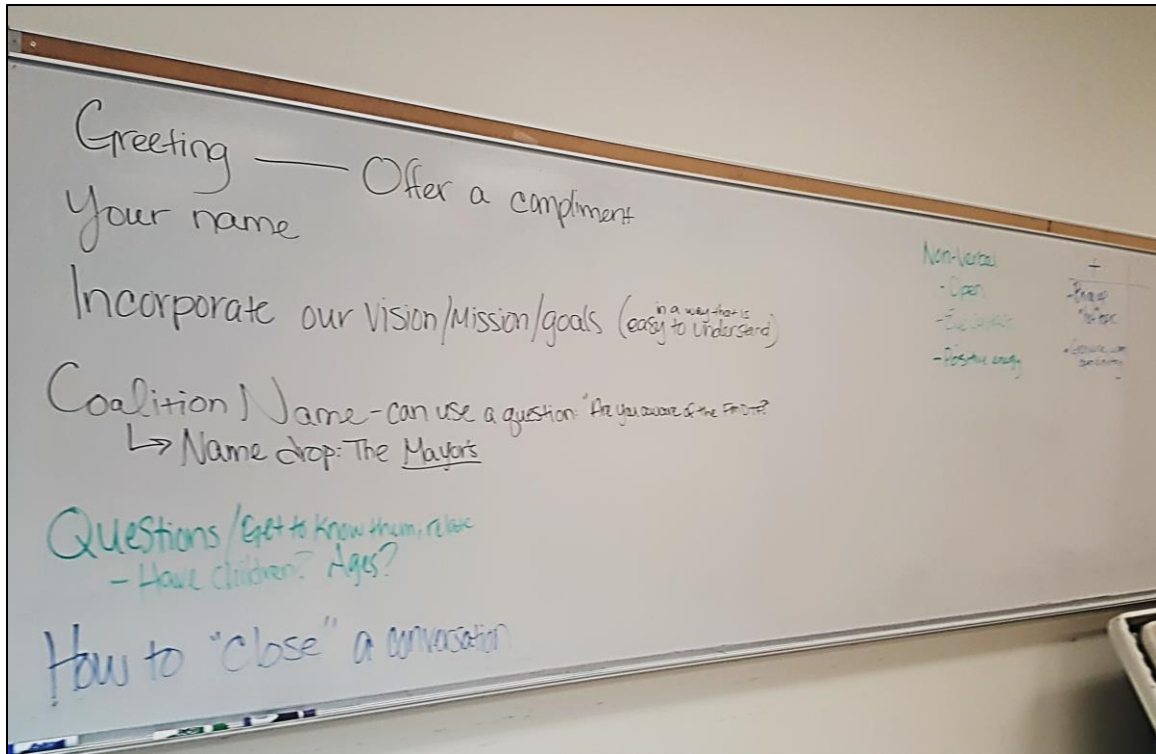
1. FACT 1 Camp Performances: These were in the end of July. This was a fun event where we did play videos as was discussed at last month's meeting. At the first showing in the early afternoon, we played the shortened version of "Alex's Story" for the group and Elizabeth actually was the one to introduce the video, our coalition's connection to this event, and after the video she shared why we felt a message such as this was so important for us to share. At the 7pm showing we played the "What Parents Need to Know" video, as this audience was filled with more parents and adult-figures (versus the earlier showing is where the rest of the Parks & Rec. summer program attends). We were nervous about showing these videos. Especially to show the "Alex's Story" video at the earlier showing because it is a hard topic to discuss. So far we have heard some very positive feedback about both of these video showings, even though at the first showing there seemed some initial confusion as to why this was being shown at this time, which is why Elizabeth was sure to explain after the video. Elizabeth shared that she feels that this tactic did indeed leave a positive impression because in the lobby of the community center, before the meeting, she was talking with the Chief and a little 8-year old boy came up to them saying that he recognized the Chief because he was at his sisters play (FACT) and then Elizabeth asked him if he remembered her because she was the one who was up front and spoke to the audience. The boy then said "Oh yes and played the video about drugs" the boy then continued saying "some people think that was not good for kids to hear. But I think it's important and that they need to hear that. That these can do harm." So Elizabeth felt that this was perfect timing to share at the meeting and it is reassuring that this 8-year old boy understands the need for this message, even though this is a tough topic. Elizabeth also shared that bringing our message to people where they are already is so much more successful than getting them to come to us. Karen D. shared that she was at the evening showing and saw parents nodding their heads to the "What Parents Need to Know" video.

Coalition in Action: Coalition Ambassadors: Making Introductions

Melissa led the group in a discussion about our Coalition Ambassador workshops/trainings and how we realized that it could be beneficial to really break this down into smaller pieces. One very important aspect is making introductions. This is the first impression moment; the moment we have to introduce ourselves to (hopefully) engage whomever we're speaking to in a conversation around our coalition's work or around whatever specific topic that we are raising awareness for.

Angela found a great resource for this very purpose and copies of an article were given out to each person in the group to review and to use as a resource to improve these skills. The group then discussed "elevator speeches" and the importance and purpose of these, and then they brainstormed important key concepts that our coalition members would want to include in this "Elevator Speech" in order to maintain consistent messaging among all "Coalition Ambassadors" (e.g. Representatives of the Coalition).

This article can be found here: <http://www.toastmasters.org/Magazine/Articles/Elevator-Speech>



Upcoming Events & Volunteer Opportunities!

- ✓ **Hill Old Home Day:** Saturday, August 20th from 7am to 9:30pm
- ✓ **September Coalition Meeting:** Thursday, September 8th from 5:15-7pm @ BRCC
- ✓ **Concerts in the Park: *need 1 more volunteer for Sept 1st***

We've been invited to fundraise by selling popcorn provided by the Opera House, and to have our materials on a portion of this table to raise awareness of our coalition work and engage community members. It would be ideal to have 2 volunteers for each event.

 - Thursday, **August 18th** from about 6:30pm to 8pm
 - Thursday, **August 25th** from about 6:30pm to 8pm
 - Thursday, **September 1st** from about 6:30pm to 8pm
- ✓ **Farmers Market: *need volunteers for August 30th and September 6th***

Any Tuesday from 3-6pm (or really an amount of time you're able to commit to) up until September 13th. "Man" a coalition awareness/resource table and use this opportunity to engage community members and educate them on our coalition's work, etc.

 - Tuesday, **August 16th** from 3-6pm at Franklin Regional Hospital
 - Tuesday, **August 23rd** from 3-6pm at Franklin Regional Hospital
 - Tuesday, **August 30th** from 3-6pm at Franklin Regional Hospital
 - Tuesday, **September 6th** from 3-6pm at Franklin Regional Hospital
- ✓ **Second Annual 'Paws in the Park' event: Saturday, September 24th** from 9 to 2pm at Odell Park. (Angela asked the group about if there's interest in having a presence at this event this year, as their interest determines whether or not we will be there because we will need the volunteers to do this event. The group agreed to "yes" be

there).

- ✓ **Drug Take Back Day:** Saturday, October 22, 2016 from 8am to Noon at CVS Franklin.

Other Volunteer Needs:

The group went through the “Other Volunteer Needs” sheet attached to the agenda, as we are always in need of volunteer help:

Our coalition runs on volunteer work. The bulk of our coalition work can’t get accomplished without you! **Because together, we can make a difference!**

Below are just a handful of examples of volunteer needs that we have.

✓ **Marketing/Media**

You could be a part of one or more of our social marketing campaigns!

- Assist in the process of creating clear, thought-provoking and engaging messages,
- Creating print ads, articles and/or press releases
- Creating or finding visuals
- Helping us get these pieces out to the media (including radio, newsletters, newspapers, social media, etc.)

✓ **Promotion of Prescription Drug Takeback Box at Franklin Police Department.**

You could be a part of:

- Maintaining this effort by checking in and replenishing marketing/educational materials at community locations
- Helping to coordinate and/or bring this message to community events
- Helping us come up with new, creative or different ways to increase awareness of this free community resource

✓ **Coalition Member Recruitment and Retention**

You could be a part of:

- Planning and implementing workshops or meeting activities that will assist in recruiting new coalition members and/or engaging current coalition members
- Editing coalition materials
- Assisting in follow-up efforts with new members
- Facilitating one-on-one interviews/meetings with current or new members to assist in planning coalition activities and strategies

✓ **Business Sector Quarterly Coalition Meetings**

You could be a part of:

- Agenda planning
- Coordinating the date, time and community location of upcoming meetings
- Material preparation
- Spreading awareness (like bringing flyers to community locations, making phone calls and/or emails, sharing on social media)
- Facilitation of the meeting(s)
- Strategizing on action items that would best fit the business sector and implementation

✓ **Parent Education**

You could be a part of:

- Strategizing on ways to reach the parent population
- Reaching out to other groups, businesses or organizations to help coordinate coalition activities or approval in involvement in already-occurring community activities
- Strategizing on how to engage this population in learning about preventing substance use with the youth in their lives and how to effectively market to this population
- Assist in creating and distributing marketing materials for upcoming events or activities
- Strategizing on best methods of engaging and educating this population (increase understanding in the content as well as how to really use that knowledge in practice)
- Helping to facilitate or conduct a parent education activity or session

Take a look in our coalition's Action Plan on your own and/or with Angela or a Leadership Team member. **We need your help!** By taking a look in this document, you may find something in there that we haven't discussed yet or recently, that may be "right up your alley."

Coordinator Announcement

Angela shared a pretty big announcement with the group: She has recently found that she will not be able to be the Coalition Coordinator for too much longer, so has put in her "notice." She will soon be moving further from Franklin and gave notice now in hopes that we will be able to find a replacement in time so that she may help train that person for a smoother transition. So far, there is no "end date" and Angela will continue in this position until she is either no longer able to or the coalition hires a new Coordinator. Angela thanked everyone for their understanding and for having welcomed her into their community and she will greatly miss Franklin and the Coalition. Elizabeth shared that the Leadership committee is sad that Angela is leaving and feels she has done a wonderful job in her position, but that they also understand and are grateful that Angela is able to stay with them for a while longer to keep things going and to hopefully help train whomever comes next. Elizabeth noted that the position has been posted this week and for everyone to share it with anyone they feel would be a good fit. The position posted is for the 32 hour position, which Angela started out as, and Melissa Lee will be helping with the facilitative pieces and attending many of the community meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by Angela Lynch

Thank you to the coalition member(s) who provided the snacks to share!