



Minutes

Tuesday, January 10, 2012 @ 4:00 – 5:30pm
 Location: High School, Small Cafeteria
 Facilitator: Dan Stinson

Attendees:

Present: Dan Stinson, Councilman Gary Roesch, Eddy Niemann, Town Justice Sybil Kennedy, Christie Lesser, Jeremy Hitt, Councilman Dick Crawford, Sally Yageric, Peter Kuszezak, Dr. Tom DeLoughry, Supervisor Mary Cooke, Christina Kensy, Dr. David Taylor, Liz Wilbert
Regrets: Ella Payne, Lisa Dollendorf, Jerry Parisi, Ginny Sukmanowski, Bob Christmann, Sandra Anzalone

Attachments:

Topic:

1. Welcome/ Intro:

2. Curfew: Mary Cooke & Bob Christmann: Mary is continuing her poll of neighboring communities as to their curfew policies, and will report back at a future meeting.

3. Mandated Parent Programs – Sally Yageric reminded the committee that people were going to ask contacts they may have in other districts to discover what they do in terms of mandated parent programs. Mr. Christmann had previously expressed his concern to not penalize the child, when it is the parents who fail to participate. Sally stated that perhaps getting the child involved in the planning part of events would help work this out. She also spoke about East Aurora, where there was a lot of initial reluctance to mandate parent participation. Now they are supportive and repeatedly suggest that this program should be done for 7th graders. Dan agreed the Middle School has traditionally been more open to doing things with the parents, and wondered what kind of carrots we could offer.

4. Safe Homes – Sally Yageric reported there is a meeting scheduled on January 19th, and she does have representatives from the Senior High and Middle Schools.

5. Being Your Best: Dr. Tom DeLoughry looking forward to his presentation to the PTA Council at 7:30 pm on February 16, 2012. Dr. Tom DeLoughry added that he is looking forward to finding a way to meld the Being Your Best program with local needs, including a possible presentation to Town employees as part of a wellness awareness program.

6. Character Council: No report

7. Tip Line: Eddy Niemann reported that the Tip Line has been used recently for one narcotic and some family dispute complaints. Also, he spoke to the owner of the Sunoco reinforcing the community's concerns about the sale of drug paraphernalia.

8. Report on meeting -. Dr. David Taylor, Director of Civic Engagement Institute at Niagara University spoke about what he hopes to accomplish with the Civic Engagement Institute of Niagara University. He has been in WNY since 1999, has held faculty positions at N.U., and is actively involved with volunteer groups in the community. He sees his current position as an opportunity to strengthen relationships between the volunteer groups and N.U. to maximize our area resources, perhaps beyond the immediate Niagara Falls area to other communities such as Grand Island. The concept is to take existing resources and direct them to the crisis points - asset based community development. Gary Roesch shared information about the recent NU project done with the Economic Development Advisory Board and the Chamber of Commerce of GI where the students completed a project aimed at increasing tourism and asset awareness. He agreed it's a great idea to work on maximizing our available resources.

Dr. Taylor encourages his students with high impact learning and critical thinking for problem solving. They are looking at health indicators to identify problems in the community, and have established that 8% of the users account for 80% of provided services; for instance, 76 people have been identified as using NF Memorial Hospital as their routine doctors' office. Pro-active health issues take a back seat to safety and crime concerns.

Indicators of health issues also show that GI has a high percentage of negative indicators for domestic violence. Dr. Taylor proposed a larger group meeting on GI to bring together interested parties. Dr. DeLoughry offered to participate with the Being Your Best program to help address this

issue.

9. Project Stick Shock: Dick Crawford suggested getting the Middle School Student Council to do a further sticker shock blitz. Because Tops is a corporate sponsor, and is always so cooperative by providing pizza and pop in addition to allowing people on the premises to attach the stickers, he suggested that Tops be honored with a proclamation to be presented at a Middle School assembly. Eddy mentioned he has contacted Walgreens and RiteAid looking for support in this project. Dick explained the dates for sticker distribution are set by the school principals, so he'll check with them to see what will work.

10. Survey: Dan noted it would be interesting to compare a survey of actual vs. perceived drug and alcohol use. He commented that we could probably use data from other communities as a comparison since we don't have GI specific actual use data.

11. Substance Abuse Poster Contest – Peter Kuszczak, of the Knights of Columbus, reported that 21 contest entries were received in the age 8-11 group, none from ages 12-14. A five person panel will be selecting the winners; these will be announced in mid- to late January. Discussion followed about the changes in savings bonds maturity, making them less attractive to use as prizes. Dick Crawford mentioned that the Lions Club does a similar contest with the schools, and they stopped using bonds and went to just distributing checks.

12. PR Subcommittee report: Mary Cooke shared that she put the Tip Line into an article in the Island-wide copy of the Dispatch and on Isledegrade's web site to raise awareness.. The sign recently blew down in the Commons, but is being put back up.

13. Implementation of new action steps: No action taken. Posters in pharmacies. Ed N. will follow up.

14. New Business / Roundtable: (a) Sally reported that the ECCPASA was invited to apply for a grant of \$500.00 from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and its underage drinking prevention education initiatives. She suggested take this opportunity to invite everyone to a Town Hall type event in an effort to mobilize the Island. Sally volunteered to be chair of a subcommittee to make this event happen. A sign up sheet was circulated, and the week of April 23rd was selected after a review of the school calendar.

(b) Sybil Kennedy spoke about a number of inquiries as to why the Town doesn't put up a building for the older kids; Realty Café is frequented by Middle School students. There is a need for non-sports recreation hub. Gary Roesch and Sybil recalled earlier years where there were places like the YMCA/WYCA and Boys Clubs that teens frequented. Dick Crawford noted that the churches offer programs, and that Reality Café started out serving Senior High students, and the attendance numbers just weren't there. He also remembered a number of weekend programs that were run at the High School including the gym. Dan Stinson mentioned activities he and his wife offer at their home such as comedy night or birthday parties. It was suggested that a list be compiled of all of the existing services offered by the schools, churches, clubs, etc. so that the teens could perhaps discover activities they are unaware of that they could be enjoying. We will follow up with this at our next meeting and perhaps develop a flyer for distribution like they do in the elementary school to send home about activities or to post in the school offices

(c) Dan expressed an interest in having One Island One Team contact information on the Town web site, as well as perhaps an email contact form. Liz volunteered to check into the details of accomplishing this.

(d) Sally shared that across from her office on Hertel Avenue, there is a vapor lounge opening for ecigarettes. She also showed us an over-the-counter caffeine product called AeroShot which is equal to one premium cup of coffee. She cautioned that it's like any other addictive drug and at \$2 is cheaper than many coffees.

(e) Doug Carella, from Senator Grisanti's office has emailed to make us aware of an upcoming visit from the Drug Policy Alliance, along with the Institute for Juvenile Justice, on January 26 and 27. They are advocates of the Reduce Penalty for Marijuana bill Doug spoke about at a One Island meeting last fall. Please alert Doug as soon as possible if you want to meet with them.

Doug.Grisanti@gmail.com

15. Meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

Next meeting: February 14, 2012 at 4pm in the small cafeteria.