

Coalition Meeting Minutes
Linn County Partnership on Substance Abuse
May 21, 2009

Call to Order

The May meeting of the Linn County Partnership on Substance Abuse was called to order at 3:30 PM by President Sue Wolrab on May 21, 2009 in the St. Luke's Chemical Dependency Conference Room, 1030 – 5th Avenue SE, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Introductions

In attendance:

Staff: Stephanie Neff, Project Director; Jill Roeder, HLCN Outreach Coordinator

Members: Sue Wolrab (Parent), Heather Armstrong (Civic), Scott Elam (Law Enforcement), Gerald Hassel (Law Enforcement), Meredith Slaymaker (Other org. involved in reducing SA), Kathy Potts (Parent), Lisa Kuzela (Education), Shaun Stepp (Health Care), Joni Scotter (Parent), Nancy Palm (Youth Serving Org.), Bill Bishop (Faith based org.), Jennifer Husmann (Other org. involved in reducing SA), Kim Harban (Health Care)

Guests: Patty Bazan

Approval of April Minutes

The minutes were approved after a correction to Sue Wolrab's name.

Report on Membership

Stephanie Neff discussed the need for growth in the sectors of media, faith based and youth. She encouraged the members to strive to invite people in these sectors to our meetings.

Training

Officer Scott Elam of the Marion Police Department submitted a request to attend the OJJDP conference at a cost of \$1300. Nancy Palm made the motion for Scott to attend the conference on August 13 and 14. The motion was seconded by Meredith Slaymaker. The motion passed unanimously.

Finances

58% of our grant year is complete. No external revenue has been received through donations or additional grants.

Healthy Linn Care Network is transitioning its administration under the umbrella of the Linn County Health Department. While this will change the internal procedures for Healthy Linn, the agency will maintain the same role in the community.

Currently, Stephanie Neff is paid through the DFC funds as a part-time Project Director; Susie Johnson provides administrative support. Consideration is being given to hiring a full time Drug Free Communities outreach coordinator. This will take place over the next few months following the transition of HLCN to Linn County Public Health. The LCPSA board will be involved in the hiring process.

Neighborhood Block Party Grant

A grant requested by the neighbors of Fairlane Drive NE, Cedar Rapids has been approved by the executive committee for \$150. The event takes place on June 27th, 5 – 9 PM. Sue Wolrab will be in attendance and requests that other members attend as well.

A discussion on providing grants for more neighborhood groups was tabled until the June meeting. There is concern as to whether this is an effective tool for our environmental strategies. An evaluation form is sent with the check to the grantees.

An ad-hoc committee will be formed to look into the matter further. Members of the committee will be Nancy Palm, Lisa Kuzela, Jill Roeder and Kathy Potts.

Funding Request

Heather Armstrong with the Community Corrections Improvement Association presented a detailed request for a \$4,000 grant to assist with the cost of curriculum and a trainer for a specially developed youth leadership training program.

This program will be specific for the Mound View and Wellington Heights neighborhoods. Focus will be on forming youth squads that can be developed in these areas that are having problems with gang activities. This program will allow us to learn from the youth the problems and concerns they are having in their communities. The program does fit into the logic model of the LCPSA. Twelve to fifteen kids will be involved with this research based program.

A motion was made by Lisa Kuzela to award the grant. Scott Elam seconded the motion. Much discussion followed. The motion was amended to award the grant only after the DFC Project Officer, Cynthia Rubio, agrees that everything is in line with the purpose of the Drug Free Communities Grant. The amended motion was made by Jennifer Husmann. It was seconded by Meredith Slaymaker. The motion passed as amended.

Media

Jennifer Husmann, Stephanie Neff and Lorna Richards (Jones County DFC) met with Z102.9 DJ Scott Schulte. The importance of reducing references to alcohol in programming aimed at teens was discussed.

It's Not my Linn Kid Campaign is developing two free public service announcements. The subject of the PSA's will be the new social host ordinance passed by the Linn County Board of Supervisors.

Alcohol Awareness Month

The forum was held at Roosevelt Middle School.

Graduation signs – are being put delivered by Erin Gavin and Kathy Potts.

Social Host Ordinance – Kathy Potts will be sending Thank You notes to the Supervisors. Meredith Slaymaker will write a letter to the editor of the Gazette thanking the Board of Supervisors for their commitment to the reduction of underage drinking in Linn County.

Sector Discussions

Jill Roeder – concern of a liquor store and gun shop in close proximity in Palo.

Bill Bishop – 800 anonymous tip lines needed.

Lisa Kuzela – Crime stoppers – work is in process for new lines.

ASAC is collecting Smoke Free signatures.

Adjournment

Kathy Potts made a motion that the Meeting adjourn at 5:40 PM .

The next scheduled meeting of the Linn County Partnership on Substance Abuse is at 3:30 PM, June 18, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Potts, Secretary