

Fairfield Cares Community Coalition
November 19, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Wendy Bentivegna, Michelle Walker, Tim Morris, Philip Dwyer, Rev. Alida Ward, Denique Weidema-Lewis, Pam Paulmann, Stephanie Swight, Hudson Hector, Anne Stewart, Catherine Giff, Lori Mediate, Beth Kelly, Liz Decker, Patsy King, Jenn Jacobson, Reini Knorr, Lauren Lanham

Opened: The meeting was opened at 9:08am by co-chair Wendy Bentivegna

Secretary: Philip Dwyer is this month's Secretary. Starting at the next meeting Lorraine Mazzo and Jenn Jacobsen have agreed to serve as co-secretary and will cover all the meetings.

Membership List: The list was passed around so people could make corrections.

Minutes: By consent the minutes of October 15, 2014 were approved

Sub Committee Updates:

A. Wellness:

Senior Health Class/college student speakers: Fairfield University students spoke in Health 40 for the first time at FLHS and FWHS this fall with a focus on campus alcohol use and other transition topics. It went very well. It included a 2 day presentation, small group work. Scheduling is tough and poses a challenge for second semester due to staff on sabbatical. Perhaps with coordination with Ludlowe a spring offering will be possible either at an assembly or another evening program. Catherine suggested possibility of offering it through the Life after Warde/high school program if other options don't work.

QPR: A course is being scheduled at Wakeman Boys & Girls Club with their Key Club. Focus is on Teen suicide. Cristin and Alida planning to present.

B. Substance Abuse:

Freshman Forum: Very successful with 400 +/- parents/students attending at Ludlowe. The young people, who spoke on their personal experience were very powerful. Warde is tonight. Warde showed a video to us that they compiled for their freshman forum.

Tobacco Program: The materials for E cigarette facts have been received and were placed in the Freshman Forum packets. We have 8 posters for each high school, and 2 DVD's which Lori is sharing with the health teachers at the high schools. Additionally, it was announced that the DVD's will be available for Fairfield Prep or anyone else in the Fairfield community to use after they have been used in both high school health classes.

Youth Engagement Survey data: The RYASAP survey has been distributed. Wendy asked how best to distribute this information beyond the PTA's & BoE. Suggested presenting some of the substance

information to students and asking them to create a poster, much as they did for posters promoting Freshman Forum and our logo. Discussion of different student groups to approach included graphics arts, business/marketing and health classes. When asked how Fairfield looked vs other communities RYASAP explained they try not to compare one town with another, but the consensus was that Fairfield is doing better.

C. Research:

RYASAP will look at the regional level data at their next board meeting.'

D. Publicity

Brochure Status: Michelle Walker did the first draft. This is in Wendy's hands now. Perhaps the Power Point from Warde could be useful. We need to find a balance between being informative and well designed- don't want to overload it with facts.

November PR with survey data: This is not happening and we need someone to accept this challenge. Catherine Giff said she might consider it but would appreciate help. Perhaps take Warde's Power Point and fashion it into a new release.

Other updates and announcements:

Parent Connect: Liz Decker outlined the planned curriculum changes. Twelve sessions, a range of four classes will be included in this falls program. Considerations included:

- Three 90 minute sessions on each of four topics:
 - Structure family dynamic
 - Focus on communications
 - 7 habits of highly effective communication
 - Scream free parenting'
 - Parenting resilient children
 - Trauma proofing your child.
- They are very flexible and may hold it off site.
- 12 total sessions, come for one, come for all. Looking at morning and evening classes.
- They may wish to review the titles of sessions to have a broader appeal

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 17th with Sub-Committee's at 8:30am and the full meeting at 9:15am.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:32am

Respectfully submitted
Philip Dwyer