

Wall Alliance for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse

March 4, 2021 – Meeting Minutes

Meeting was called to order : 6:01 p.m.

Sunshine statement

Members Present : Patti Bartsche, Sharon Burney, Keri DiRocco, Amy Gesualdi, Kendy Ker, Patti Mariconda, Kristin Meyler, Mary Lynn Morris, Marie O'Connell, Alysa Regeyne, Melissa Salso, Sgt. Miles Shanklin, Tom Kingman.

Acceptance of January Minutes: Motion by Alyssa Regeyne; seconded by Keri DiRocco. All in favor.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Sgt. Miles Shanklin provided an overview of the state's new marijuana laws, specifically focusing on how the new law addresses the process for how minors in possession of marijuana or alcohol must be handled by all law enforcement. For a first offense, an officer will issue a written warning, which includes the person's name, address, and date of birth; no notification is given to a parent or guardian. For a second offense, a written warning is given, and the person is provided materials on community drug treatment services; for individuals under 18, a copy of the warning notice is provided to the individual's parent or guardian. For a third offense, a written warning is given and information on community drug treatment is provided; if the individual is between 18-21 a notice of the written warning will be provided to the community drug treatment program, if the individual is under 18, a copy of the warning will also be provided to the parents or guardian.

Sgt. Shanklin said that there are more questions than answers right now, there things are changing all the time. He recommended going to the State Attorney General's website to get information. A discussion followed with Alliance members.

DELTA CLUB

The club was able to put together its Red Ribbon Week activities, the club in general is struggling because of the pandemic and virtual learning. There have been discussions at meetings about fundraisers. Also, there's been a discussion about doing a virtual event, perhaps with Care One, that would allow DELTA club students to connect with seniors.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Project Graduation : The 2021 event will not be happening. Kristin will be meeting with high school administration brainstorm ideas to make graduation memorable for seniors.

Robin Zawodniak and Family : An orchid was sent to the Zawodniak family and a donation was made to RAFTS in their son's honor.

Wall HS Alliance Scholarship : The applications should be ready for review shortly. Kristin will email members of the scholarship committee about how the process will work this year along with additional information.

2022 Alliance Funding Update: Kristin explained that she thought she would have had information from GCADA (Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse) regarding funding, but nothing has released. Kristin believes something is coming, and there is a sense that alliances are getting awards, but the details are still unknown.

5th Grade Parent Packets : The packets are ready to go; just waiting on approval from the administration. The packets will be going only to fifth graders in the district. Alyssa said the DELTA students could help put the packets together.

Drive through Coffee and Donuts : The Alliance is looking for unique community events to hold during the pandemic when social distancing restrictions are in place.

Tim Shoemaker : The Alliance will be bringing nationally renowned speaker Tim Shoemaker to high school students for a virtual presentation. A date has not yet been set. A parent program is also being considered. Kristin provided a link (via email) for a flyer about Shoemaker for Alliance to learn more about him and his presentations.

"Stigma Free" Banner: The plan is to put a "Stigma Free" banner on the front lawn of town hall in April; it will be up for a month. It is part of The Monmouth County Stigma-Free Initiative, a countywide program that aims to reduce the stigmas associated with mental illness and substance use disorder.

NJPN Addictions Conference : This year's event will be held April 29 & 30; it will be held virtually this year. If an Alliance member is interested in attending the conference, let Kristin know – a lot of great information is presented during the event.

The next meeting will be held at 6 p.m. April 1. Motion to adjourn by Alyssa Regenye, seconded by Marie O'Connell. Meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.