

Mahanoy Area Drug and Alcohol Prevention Coalition Meeting Minutes

January 9, 2012

Attendees: Andrea Caulfield, Kate Orsulak, Cathy Stone, Diane Rowland, Trinna Delia, Colleen Rhoades, Sharon Chiao and Michael Heater

Student Representative: Mrs. Orsulak spoke to a prospective student but the student was unable to commit to the Coalition. Cathy Stone is checking with students from SADD and TAT.

Drug Paraphernalia: Chief Wiekrykas emailed some information regarding drugs/paraphernalia found in our area, for example a bracelet that is utilized as a drug pipe and pot laced with crack/cocaine.

Big Bowl Vote: Diane Rowland reported that she received an email from the Drug Free Alliance. She reported that millions of people watch the Super Bowl, especially a high percentage of youth under 21. The day after the Super Bowl, youth are given a short survey regarding commercials and the votes are tabulated. In the past beer commercials are usually 2nd or 3rd. If we are able to do the survey at our school it would be for grades 5-12 and would have to be given on Tuesday as Monday is an Act 80day. Mr. Heater is checking with administration, if it is done it can be completed during remediation.

Keep a Clear Mind: Diane is contacting Janelle Blozousky regarding this program as well as materials provided. This program includes four booklets regarding alcohol, tobacco, drugs and making good choices that are sent home to the parents to discuss with their child.

Alternative Activities: There is some grant money with Prevention Partnership in order to run an alternative activity that targets middle/high school students so they are not using drugs or alcohol but it must be held after school hours. Cathy Stone had spoken to SADD members and one idea was an activity such as "Capture the Flag". At the meeting discussed other ideas associated with SADD's ideas such as using clues as in the TV show Amazing Race and like the local event the Grave Dig and possibly calling it "Bear Pride Challenge". They can utilize things such as the balloon obstacle course, stations, games, etc. Coalition members also discussed opening this event with a barbeque/cookout. The activity may be held in March or April. Cathy will take back the ideas from the Coalition to the SADD club members.

Student Program: Bath salts still seem to be an issue locally. It is illegal in our area, however, not all states have banned so it can be ordered over the internet. Diane will be showing a video to grades 7 and 8 during Mentoring on February 15, 2012 regarding Bath Salts as well as a power point presentation. Also, Cathy Stone and SADD are looking to provide this presentation to high school students in grades 8-12 in March, possibly during high school Mentoring.

Next Meeting Date: Looking forward to seeing you at the Next Meeting tentatively scheduled for, Monday, February 6, 2012 time to be announced.