



**Stratford Partnership for Youth and Families
Birdseye Municipal Complex
Wednesday, August 12, 2015
Minutes**

In attendance: Emily Barksdale, Javan Barrett, Nell Barrett, Darin Bershefsky, Darrin Bosco, Samuel Branyan, Greta Broneill, Jackson Buchanan, Nina Chanana, Paul DosSantos, Lucretia Duwel, Winnie Etienne, William Figueroa, Anna Gasinski, Michelle Harrison, Jayleen Herrera, Patty Hines, Denise Keegan, Sean Kennedy, Saraya Lewis, James Olsen, Amelia Overby, Janet Robinson, Faye Rooney, Jodi Palmieri Schumann, Braydon Seaburg, Denise Scott-Taylor, Kellie Scott-Taylor, Mary Tiernan, Shannon Tripodi, Tammy Trojanowski, Daelynne Veloz, Kate Venison, Denique Weidema-Lewis, Sarah Williams, Cheree Wright

Call to Order and Approval of Minutes

Winnie Etienne called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. The Coalition was instructed to state their names as well as someone or a topic they would like to see presented at a future SPYF meeting.

Approval of the July 8, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Darrin Bosco made a motion to approve the July 8, 2015 meeting minutes. Jodi Palmieri Schumann seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Proposed Logo and Meeting Schedule Change

The revised logo for the Stratford Partnership for Youth and Families was presented to the Coalition.



The Executive Committee has reviewed a proposal from Susan Rubinsky, a marketing consultant. The proposal is for branding and recognition of the Coalition in the community, as well as establishing and monitoring Coalition web and social media presence and activity. In addition, Susan will work closely with Coalition members to develop a social marketing campaign.

In addition, due to a conflict for many youth members, the Executive Committee has voted to amend the 2015-16 Coalition meeting schedule. The meeting date will change from the second

Wednesday of the month to the second Tuesday of the month from 6:00-7:30 p.m. A new schedule will be distributed via e-mail and posted to the website.

Committee Reports

Youth Committee~ Members participated in an overnight youth retreat on August 6th and 7th. Youth Committee members participated in team building activities, learned about the Coalition, and about building assets and becoming Asset Ambassadors. Also, youth committee members and Emily Barksdale, Community Services Intern, planned a marijuana PSA (Public Service

Announcement), to increase awareness around the risks of being high while driving. A preview was shown to the Coalition. Once completed, the PSA will be published on Youtube and other social media sites.

School Assets Committee~ A draft of the "Assets Postcard" was distributed for review. The School Assets Committee has presented to custodians and guidance staff, as well as connected with the "Be Kind" initiative. After meeting with the Superintendent, Dr. Robinson, the School Assets Committee plans to present to principals and administrators, social workers, nurses, paraprofessionals, etc.

Data STAT (Short Term Action Team)~ An executive summary of the needs assessment report will be available in September. The executive summary will show how the data found formed and supports the logic models for marijuana and alcohol.

Year 2 Action Plan

Coalition members engaged in a balloon activity, which tasked members to keep up their balloon "teen" alone and then as a group. Coalition members found that it was much more difficult to keep all the balloons afloat working as a group because if they were constantly coming from all angles. This demonstrates the need to have a concrete plan so all the balloon "teens" can be kept afloat and thriving.

Coalition members met in groups and discussed the revisions made to the Year 2 Action Plan that was created based on the July 8 action planning meeting.

Community Updates

- RYASAP will be starting a regional Teen Impact Committee. It will be created by young people, for young people.
- Stratford Library Teen Services is having a "Youtube Video Contest" open to Stratford teens. Teens are encouraged to make a 2 to 5 minute video on any appropriate topic. For more details, visit Stratfordlibrary.org.
- The Wayne's Walk Foundation is sponsoring the Fairfield County Walk Like MADD Event in Fairfield, CT on October 24, 2015 at 8:30 a.m.
- The Coalition is looking for volunteers to attend upcoming community events and build Coalition awareness: Latin Music Festival on September 13, 2015 and upcoming school open houses.

Plusses and Wishes

Plusses	Wishes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marijuana and alcohol group discussions • Balloon activity • Name Tags • Candy • Starting and ending on time • Half attendees are youth members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More time for discussions • Physical layout change of table

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Anna Gasinski". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Anna Gasinski