

NP-ASAP

December 3, 2009

Present: Georgia Carr, Susan Owens, Dean Viara, Monica Becket, Hilary Woodcum, Tom Davie, John Lewis, Vicki Hempel, Moira Powell, Samantha House, Kris-An Hinds, Luciano Saiz, Jennifer Grant, Anne Klockenkemper, Diane Ramseyer

Introductions were provided and a review of the last meeting, and the idea for Drug-Free Youth program. Samantha, Kris-An and Luciano were asked for their thoughts on the initiative. They all agreed that they would definitely like to see something like this in North Port, and felt other youth would as well.

At the last meeting, the idea of holding a youth forum in January was discussed. The youth at the meeting felt that January is not the best time for a Youth Forum – we should wait until after FCAT to hold the event – end of February or March. Discussion on how to publicize the event was held.

- Youth share information on the initiative and forum during Advisory prior to event
- Hold a poster contest
- Articles in Bobcat (Monica and Hilary agreed to be available for interviews)
- Facebook Page w/poster contest
- Use the DFY-IT videos from Miami-Dade
- Articles in local paper
- Contact other student groups at Middle Schools (SADD – Hilary) (SWAT at Heron Creek – Denise)

Officer Viara indicated additional data can be obtained from www.Monitorthefuture.org . He was asked if there is a hook for kids who are off the radar. He said there is always something. He also suggested we review contract between City Police and School board to see if the DARE component is in it for High School – make sure it is and it is being adhered to.

Discussing how to make community change on the issue of substance abuse – Officer Viara shared that the acronym AAA – has been used in the past - Availability affordability and acceptability. Group discussed that this offers a guide for the activities of this group. Activities should not be pursued if they do not address one of these:

- Availability of substance use/abuse
- Affordability of substance use/abuse
- Acceptability of substance use/abuse

The Tobacco Grant funding for a community assessment was discussed. The group would like to work with the student groups – SWAT and SADD – on retail assessments. Will work on getting them involved once the final decision on the assessment type is determined at the December 9th CHAT Meeting. The Health Services Committee is exploring Physician outreach for the assessment, but, the CHAT is in position to do both types of assessments with both the Health Services Committee and NP-ASAP involved.

Next Meeting is January 14th – Carolyn Zucker of School Board will be attending, and John Lewis will send invitation to other members. The youth will invite other youth to help plan the Forum at this meeting. Invitation to the City Commission and Chief Lewis will also be made.