

Melrose Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition

Monthly Coalition Meeting—Thursday, April 1, 2010

Present: Karen Andrews, Jeff Bolduc, Maureen Buzby, Ruth Clay, Eileen Dern, Sue Federico, Jan Flynn, Donna Macdonald, Mary Beth Margolis, Janet Nevin, Marie Ryan, Kara Showers, Joe Singer, Emma Svoboda, Anna Tramontozzi, Jackie Indrisano, Michael Plumer, John Ross.

Total Attendees: 18.

Sectors represented: Youth, Parents, Business community, Media, Schools, Healthcare professionals, Governmental agencies, Other organizations.

Next Meeting Dates:

- 1) Action Team meetings (assorted dates/times/locations).
- 2) Next Monthly Coalition Meeting: **Thursday, May 6, 2010 – 8:30--9:30 am, Superintendent’s Conference Room, Central Administration.**

Topic	Discussion	Decision/Action Step
Coalition Appreciation Coffee Break		-Group convened ½ hour early to socialize before 8:30 meeting.
Welcome/Introductions -Kara	-March 4 th minutes -Role Assignments	-Approved, as written. -Emma S. appointed Reader (maybe permanently – you do such a great job, Emma!) and Joe S. appointed Timekeeper. We love our MHS attendees!! -Regular assignments performed by Ruth (sign-in sheet), Donna (table tents) and Maureen (latecomer agenda packets). Thanks, all.
Coalition Business - Kara	-Current Efforts	-DFC In-Kind Tracking Forms for February/March 2010 distributed, filled out and returned. -Urgent request for Coalition photos/photographer – members encouraged to take photos at any MSAPC or community events and send them along to be used for Coalition publicity/website/annual reports. -AT updates in packet. Coalition members asked to take a minute to review. It was noted to membership that some short-term Task Teams will be deactivated, as necessary.

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	<p>-Next Steps</p>	<p>Murphy, who works in Denise Gaffey’s office in City Hall.</p> <p>-Will present to Parks Commission and Conservation Commission with results of Environmental Scans.</p>
<p>Other Business - Janet</p>	<p>-SPOTLIGHT!!</p> <p>-Training Calendar</p> <p>-Article of Interest</p> <p>-Follow-Up</p>	<p><u>-On Joe Singer!!</u> Our fearless Youth Action Team member has successfully run a Coalition meeting and led the MSAPC portion of last month’s Pre-Prom forum (including writing the skit presented to the audience of hundreds of MHS juniors, seniors and parents), while negotiating the last couple of months of his senior year – and waiting for those college acceptance letters! We appreciate and thank you for all of your effort this year and wish you the very best next year at Boston College!! Go Joe!!</p> <p>-In packet.</p> <p>-In packet related to upcoming community training offered by Mayor’s office –sexual abuse prevention training offered for non-profits by Darkness to Light, a South-Carolina based non-profit, which focuses solely on child sexual abuse. Training to be offered in late April.</p> <p>-At last month’s meeting, Allen mentioned an on-line service which matches volunteers to non-profits: www.volunteermatch.org</p> <p><u>NEXT COALITION MEETING:</u> <u>Thursday, May 6, 2010 – 8:30-9:30 AM in Superintendent’s Conference Room, Central Administration.</u></p>
<p>Community Concern/Open Forum</p>		<p>-Much member discussion about South Hadley student suicide. Coalition members want principals and administration to be more forthcoming about school policies related to bullying and cyberbullying. MAAV continues to work pro-actively in community. Guidance Department has been busy. John Ross is going into schools to address cyberbullying/bullying issues with students. Mary Beth suggests parents contact Joe Casey’s office for anti-bullying rubric.</p> <p>-In an effort to continue our involvement in Healthy Alternatives for youth, Sue F. wonders if we might want to put any effort into creating a “clearinghouse” for summer jobs/volunteer</p>

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		<p>opportunities for teens. MHS senior intern may be put on the job!</p> <p>-Coalition members, including new member Jackie Indrisano (welcome Jackie!), discussed underage drinking in community, related to pre-prom forum and end of school year. Noted that sometimes parents don't realize they're doing the wrong thing – think they're providing a “safe place” for their teens and friends to drink – when they host parties in their homes. Talked about her interest in bringing (healthy alternative/non-drinking) concerts to Melrose community for youth. She has worked as manager/booker for musical groups at Berklee College's Café 939, an all-ages venue in Boston.</p> <p>-Further discussion about how to reach PARENTS, other than at one-shot events. Student suggests that it's not always parents who provide kids with alcohol and opportunity (older siblings, fake ID's).</p>
Networking and Adjournment		<p>-Informal Networking</p> <p>-Meeting adjourned at 9:30 am.</p>