



Vision Statement "A safe and healthy community"

MINUTES

Wednesday, January 13, 2021 • 10:30-noon
via Zoom

CSHElgin.org

President, Jack Wheatley (Faith-Base), called the meeting to order at 10:32am.

Self-introductions were done by all attendees. In attendance, we had the following individuals: Jared Erickson (staff), Tina Link (Healthcare), Sophia Ottomanelli (Government), Gil Feliciano (staff), Bernie Bajak (Law Enforcement), Jenny Wagner (Other), Bob Whitt (Government), Lorena Nuñez (Healthcare), Jessica Reed (Other).

Action Plan. The grassroots, volunteer-led aspect of the coalition was underscored by Wheatley. Best methods of communication with members were discussed: Wagner, if time-sensitive, texting works better; Bajak prefers email and an estimated time-frame on the coalition's ask.

The Executive Committee's current focus is Action Plan and assignments. Wheatley underscored time is of the essence especially given the recent funding for Year 6 by the CDC. Feliciano to send an email to members and the action item assigned to them. An estimated number of hours of each item to be included if possible along with a summation and what was done before. Members will have until the 20th to reject if desired. By the 27th, it will be finalized. Ottomanelli indicated she'd like to confirm she's the best fit for the coalition given her emphasis is opioids but neither alcohol nor tobacco.

CADCA Forum this year is virtual and will take place the first week in February. An invitation was extended for anyone interested in attending to reach out to Feliciano.

DFC report. Coalition was awarded another 5-year grant which will be the last DFC grant we are able to receive. Our two focus drugs this year are alcohol and marijuana. It may change as the data changes. Nonetheless, we may address tangential issues as well. Federal match increases in Year 7-10 incrementally in order to prove community-wide support for the coalition and its work. FY20 draw-down funds mostly expended. Used 26k mostly in the supplies and contractual categories with a little in travel/conference fees. Erickson and Feliciano produced a Dispose Rx video on how to use it. CSHE participated in the Resource Fair/Turkey Giveaway at Wing Park in November. It had limited participation but we were able to secure a spot thanks to CSHE member Familia Dental. The National Coalition Academy is coming up and Feliciano encouraged anyone interested in participating at least one of the weeks to let him know. They prefer to have a member in addition to the DFC Coordinator. A short video was shown regarding CSHE's first PhotoVoice project.

Social media report. Erickson reported he attended a recent social media training by TTJ, Inc in which Erickson, Wheatley and Feliciano participated. Erickson sought suggestions for posts from members. Other lessons learned include that less is often more in social media. CSHE expects to release their very first podcast, Encouraging Conversation, Friday, January 29 and subsequently every last Friday of the month.

MISSION - Coalition for a Safe & Healthy Elgin:

To promote a safe and healthy community free of violence and substance abuse activity through education, prevention, and action.

EPD Drug Unit report. The unit is going through some personnel and COVID-19 challenges but still doing controlled buys and rewriting SOPs. Continue to work with the State's Attorney's office. Optimistic additional activity in the next couple of months. Despite the national trends to get away from drug charges, there still seems to be a correlation between drug-related arrests and less crime. COVID-19 making an impact on the work of the Drug Unit and policing in general.

A motion was made, which passed unanimously, that the consent agenda be approved.

A reminder to fill out a meeting evaluation was announced by Erickson.

Open floor announcements included the following: Northern Illinois Recovery currently has an *interim* CEO which will likely result in positive changes in the near future like more community involvement, re-branding, etc. Greater Elgin Area Family Care Center doing rapid testing for COVID-19 adding to the nasal swab and the serological antibody tests at no cost to the patients. Link encouraged everyone to keep on their particular county's guidelines with respect to the COVID-19 vaccine; will add anyone to her e-list upon request. The Kane County Health Department has Deterra (drug deactivation product) and available to anyone interested.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:48am