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MINUTES
8-18-2011

Attended: Ashley Browning, Kris Bowers, Ed Jefferies, Lisa Smalling, Sandi Fisher, Margie Collins, Heatherly Sifford, Elizabeth Herbert, Julie Fracoli, Nicole Douglas, Jennifer Berven, Sgt. Van Mominee, Roy Gillis, Tim Perry

Welcome and Introductions: Chairperson, Heatherly Sifford welcomed everyone and asked all who were present to introduce themselves.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: Ed Jefferies made a motion to accept the July minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Lisa Smalling. The motion passed.

Monthly Reports: Reports had been provided to the staff and information was included in the monthly newsletter. The newsletter is available on-line at www.wcadc.com

- Weed and Seed Update: Bill Killian, the new US Attorney for the eastern region of Tennessee will be the speaker at the August meeting. Rob Reeves the new supervisor of the Greeneville office will also be attending. The meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 23, 2011. Lunch will be served at 11:30 and the meeting will begin at 12 noon.
- HEROES Update: The data training has been completed and the Core Management Team continues to plan for ways to sustain grant services after the federal funding has ended. The Communications Team from the national Safe Schools/Healthy Students office will be meeting with the Core Management Team next month to prepare presentations that are tailored to fit a variety of audiences.
- Community Advisory Board: No report.

Staff Reports:

- July 30 Christy and Neil attended the Health Fair at Coalition for Kids. They talked to 80 youth. 13 adults signed up for the newsletter.
- August 5- about 40 people stopped by the Insight Alliance open house and ribbon cutting.
- UMOJA (Officer Oasis) August 12-13. Earth Fare provided the food and over 20 law enforcement, Tennessee State Guard members and community partners enjoyed having a place to cool off and grab a bite to eat.
- Jennifer and Elizabeth attended the CADCA Mid-Year Training in California
- Jennifer, Officer Todd Moody and Special Agent Misty Crain with the TABC (Tennessee Alcoholic Beverage Commission) attended the EUDL (Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws) Conference in Orlando.
- Christy continues to compile data from the arrest reports
- Jennifer will be attending a Statewide Coalitions meeting.

- The recently hired director of the Tennessee Prevention Certification Board has resigned to take another position. A new search is on for a qualified person to fill this position.

Meeting Format: Jennifer would like more input from the executive board. The executive board is comprised of all officers, representatives of those agencies who receive funding either from the Coalition or on behalf of the Coalition, and anyone else who is interested in providing leadership. Jennifer suggested that the executive board meet at 3:00PM to discuss policy and fiscal matters with the regular meeting beginning at 3:30 as always.

Density Mapping: There are 186 businesses that sell alcohol in Washington County. These include 13 liquor stores, and 76 that sell beer for off-premises consumption. For on-premises alcohol sales, there are 65 that sell liquor by the drink, 5 sell only wine, 27 sell only beer and two are listed as “special catering”. 32 of these businesses are open past midnight and 7 of them offer bottomless or free drinks. In addition 23 provide beer or liquor for \$2.50 or less per drink. ABC is getting ready to send a warning to several establishments that are selling “bottomless” cups. Jennifer passed out Google maps showing the location of businesses that sell alcoholic beverages. She will send a link to Coalition members. You can view the maps. You can save them if you have a Google account. The maps are of the Weed and Seed and VA/ETSU areas.

There are 4.5 establishments that sell beer per square mile in Washington County. In the Weed and Seed area there are 10 per square mile. Most of these businesses stay open late in the Weed and Seed area. Jennifer is getting a list from other counties such as Sullivan and Knoxville to compare density. Our alcohol arrests per 1,000 are high. They are almost double Knoxville county’s and are triple the state rates. We need to consider ordinances to control industry growth. There is one liquor store per 5,500 people. Alcohol use is related to many social problems; violence, theft, domestic violence, car crashes, etc. This problem relates well to several other issues being addressed by Weed and Seed and other community partners such as homeless services and prison re-entry services. Jennifer is looking at model ordinances used in other communities to address density and staying open late. This may have to go under zoning. Density ordinances are usually based on population or land area or zoning. The city has no control over liquor licenses issues. However ordinances could address Happy Hour specials, low cost, ladies free, and bottomless drinks.

Sunday morning liquor sales: Currently there it is illegal to sell alcoholic beverages from 3AM until noon on Sundays in Johnson City. The new ordinance would allow sales from 8:00 a.m. on. The owner of Mountain Empire Oil convenience stores spearheaded the initiative because he has two Roadrunner stores near the Bristol Motor Speedway and claims that he is losing business to Sullivan County where Sunday morning beer sales are allowed. Alcohol is a revenue money maker even in this poor economy. Van Mominee stated that the only time some neighborhoods have a reprieve from neighborhood drunks is on Sunday morning. Jennifer stated that she was attending the second reading of the ordinance at tonight’s Commission meeting and would either speak as a private citizen or as the director of the Coalition. Ed Jefferies made a motion for Jennifer to attend the Commission meeting to share information on behalf of the Coalition. Providing information is not considered lobbying and is permissible under our grants. Kris Bowers seconded the motion. The motion passed.

New Business: We will be seeking your input as we plan strategies that would address high school and college parties. We need ordinances that would make it easier for officers to go into “nuisance gatherings” or provide more consequences. We also need to pursue the “source” for providing alcohol to underage drinkers. Most often it is adult friends or family members who provide it, not liquor or convenience stores.

Announcements:

- The Teen Empowerment and Substance Abuse Forum is Thursday September 22nd at the Millennium Center. There will be speakers presenting information about parenting and resources for professionals.
- Jennifer would like to bring a speaker in to talk about the effects of drinking alcohol on the physical body. Topics will address issues for athletes and parents. The topics of energy drinks and the effects of caffeine will also be addressed. One goal is to help school systems develop consistent policies around alcohol use. This will be a regional training and will take place on September 29th or 30th. It will be sponsored by the Coalition using funding awarded to address regional issues.

**The combined WCADC meeting, and Prevention, Intervention, Treatment subcommittee for Weed and Seed & Community Advisory Board will meet
Thursday, September 15th at 3:30 at Trinity Church on University**

Regional Coalition will meet on September 6 at 10AM at the Volunteer Center in Greenville

Weed and Seed will meet Tuesday August 23rd and September 27 at Carver Recreation. Lunch will be served at 11:30 and the meeting begins at 12 noon