



Joseph C. Sullivan
Mayor

Office of the Mayor

One JFK Memorial Drive
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Braintree Community Partnership on Substance Use

Meeting Minutes

May 24, 2017

6:30-8:00 PM

Persons Present: Robyn Houston-Bean, Melonie Bennett, Susan Bryan, Ed Bousalah, Mike Cavanaugh, Marta Googins, John Griffin, Don Harrington, Shannon Hume, Mary Kelly, Jessica Koelsch, Robyn LaFrance, Brian Leary, Carolyn Loud, Julie Manning, Marci McDonough, Marybeth McGrath, Laurie Melchionda, Jimmy McCray, Terri Murphy, Michael Owens, Jennifer Picard, Vicky Ruvido, Sandra Stamos, Jon Wilson, Therese Wilson, Anita Young.

Meeting Commenced: 6:35PM

Minutes

Agenda Item: Welcome
Jessica Koelsch opened the meeting at 6:35 pm and introductions were done.
Agenda Item: Meeting guidelines
Jessica Koelsch reviewed the meeting guidelines one by one briefly. She reminded the group that meeting minutes are posted online. Due to the nature of the subject matter, sensitive information is sometimes shared at the meetings and an effort in good faith will be made to not include such information in the minutes. However, if anyone is concerned about information shared being included in the minutes should approach the Secretary, Robyn LaFrance.
Agenda Item: Presentation: National Rx & Heroin Summit & SAM marijuana education summit
Laurie Melchionda gave a presentation to share her feedback and information she gathered from the National Rx conference. She reviewed the Smart Approach to Marijuana (SAM) meeting first followed by notes on the Rx & Heroin summit. Overall, Laurie explained that Braintree is doing precisely the same as the rest of the country in responding to the opioid crisis with each of the approaches the town is taking and with the organization of the Partnership coalition. She noted that she attended various presentations that discussed community coalitions or were presented by community coalitions and all referenced "stakeholders" and "sectors". Laurie confirmed the importance of this and said that Braintree is on track with communities across the country.
Laurie explained that she was particularly interested in finding a great educational model to bring back

to Braintree but it wasn't there. The best practices were SBIRT and Braintree has already adopted that. She discussed the marijuana issues in Colorado and reported on the youth data, and she pointed out the Wisconsin "Dose of Reality" campaign. There was some discussion about medical and recreational marijuana. It was reported that the average medical marijuana card holder is a 32 year old white male. Laurie ended the presentation with "where do we go from here"?

Shannon Hume reported that her experience at the Rx Summit was similar to Laurie's and she added that CADCA is an excellent resource. Shannon talked about Rx return kiosks and overall said there was a lot of information to take in at the conference.

Robyn Houston Bean reported on her experience at the Rx Summit. Robyn discussed a coalition idea with regard to a program with realtors and Rx medication bags. She mentioned websites/programs "notprescribed.org" and "I Rise Above" as two ideas that she particularly liked. She concurred that there were not a lot of new ideas unfortunately. Robyn put a high priority on marijuana education especially geared toward informing youth and parents.

Anita Young commented that the Rx medication storage bags was an interesting idea and one that can be easily explained and taught to people to do at home. She also explained that medication can be safely disposed of in the home using cat litter or coffee grounds.

Mike Owens asked how much medication assisted recovery was discussed at the Rx Summit and reminded the group that federal funding and pharmaceutical companies are sponsors of the national Rx Summit. One reply was that it was easily noticeable to attendees.

Agenda Item: Committee/Department updates

- Jon Wilson discussed a few items that the Steering Committee is working on. In particular, he focused in on the need to better inform the community about the Partnership and its resources. He explained that the mission statement needs to be clear and that the July 1 parade will be an important opportunity for the Partnership to be noticed by the community with people marching in the parade with the banner. Jon talked about the need to unite all citizens in the community.
- Advocating for all Town employees to be trained to use naloxone was discussed. It was noted that we are not going to be able to make a policy change.
- Jessica Koelsch gave an update on the Steering Committee, and also on the parent survey planned for the fall.
- Jen Fay gave an update on the sticker shock campaign, the SADD efforts to design a flyer for a Connect Ed message, and she confirmed that the school is sharing the DA's office Prom program information.
- Jessica Koelsch gave an update on the logo committee and explained that GP3 Creative is working on the Partnership website and content and she explained that this website will tag on to the new town website rather than be hosted on its own. This is a better plan overall.
- Data committee update is that the committee will be meeting in the near future and be charged with helping to review what data exactly has been collected so far and establish goals to collect

data needed to complete a thorough community assessment.

- Partnership brochure and pocket resource guide update was explained.
- Lt. Kevin MacAleese explained that overdose calls are increasing and he informed the group that 2 calls were responded to the day prior to this meeting and one resulted in death. He said the Fire Department is carrying and using 4mg narcan.
- Jessica Koelsch briefed the group on a presentation she attended that day, "Addressing the Opioid Epidemic in Metro Mayors Communities", conducted by the Metro Mayors Coalition of which Mayor Sullivan is involved and the Town of Braintree is a member. One initiative that was discussed briefly was a helpline phone line dedicated to providing information 24 hours, same as the 311 phone line in Boston. A few members spoke to voice strong support for having this type of service available in Braintree. The idea of having a person on the other end of a phone call in a crisis rather than having to resort only to an internet search was favorable to several members. A state hotline to call for available detox beds and other statewide resources under BSAS or specifically the Stop Addiction in its Tracks and #Statewithoutstigma campaign were also discussed briefly.
- Mention of partnering with the Braintree Chamber of Commerce to have a local business community and Partnership joint meeting.

Agenda Item: Discussion

- The subject of messaging and communication was discussed. A billboard on Wood Road is available for advertising, and digital sign boards owned by the Building Department. All agreed that the Partnership should utilize this signage. The need to have the Partnership logo on all reasonable surfaces for continuous messaging was discussed, including all literature that goes out to residents. Other ideas included producing a magnet and there was discussion about what information would be printed on the magnets, and a suggestion to use the sandwich board signage.
- Discussion regarding promoting the state BSAS helpline and all of the state resources that have already been established and identified for substance use recovery, support, and prevention.
- Marta Googins volunteered to call the BSAS helpline and research exactly what help the service provides.
- Councilor Mike Owens said he believes a Town social worker position is needed to specifically assist residents who are navigating the substance abuse treatment and recovery system and need a person to talk to.

Agenda Item: Announcements

- Robyn Houston Bean explained that plans are in the works for the 2nd Beanstock concert fundraiser and she announced that volunteers are needed to assist on July 15. She explained that this will be a sober event, lots of good things happening and the night will end with the vigil.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:10 PM

Next Meeting: June 28, 2017 in Town Hall

Note-Taker: Robyn LaFrance