



Minutes Committee for Youth, Families and Community January 11, 2011

Minutes of the Committee for Youth, Families and Community held January 11, 2011 at the Cardon Children's Medical Center, Mesa, AZ

MEMBERS Present:

Randy Lazar, Tempe Union High School District
Bobbie Cassano, Tempe Community Council
Lynette Stonefeld, Tempe/Kyrene Communities In Schools
Norm Saba, Cardon Children's Medical Center
Vic Cordts, Boys & Girls Club of the East Valley
Vicki Kringen, The Center for Habilitation
Amanda Hamm, Kyrene School District
Lauren Johnson, Community Bridges
Michelle Arguedas, Community Bridges
Sean Donovan, Tempe Chamber of Commerce
Renee Thomas, Mountain Park Health Center
Alan Anderson, Checkmate Chess Instruction
Kelley Lind, Cardon Children's Medical Center
Jimmy Gutierrez, Chicanos Por La Causa

MEMBERS Absent:

Celeste Plumlee, Tempe Resident
Maria Holmes, Association for Supportive Childcare
Sheran Mattson, Mattson Resource Development
Barb Fries, Tempe Elementary School District
Ilene Dode, Tempe Resident/EMPACT-SPC

City Staff Present:

Kim Bauman, Community Services-Social Services
Roni Alexander, Community Services-Social Services
Tricia Gilman, Community Services-Social Services
Fran Santos, Police Department

Guests Present:

Denise Lopez, Magellan Health Services
Kelsey Wolf, Tempe Community Council

Meeting convened at 4:15 p.m.

Agenda Item 1- Call Meeting to Order and Introductions

Bobbie Cassano called the meeting to order. Introductions were made.

Agenda Item 2 - Minutes from December 14, 2010 Meeting

The minutes from December 14, 2010 were reviewed.

MOTION: Vicki Kringen motioned to approve the minutes.

SECOND: Vic Cordts seconded the motion.

COMMITTEE CONSENSUS: Minutes were approved.

Agenda Item 3 – “Spice” Update

Bobbie Cassano provided an update on Valley efforts to address spice.

- 1) The East Valley effort has essentially spread Valley wide. A second meeting has been held on this issue.
- 2) As of December 24, 2010 the five chemicals that comprise spice have become illegal. However, it is unclear if spice containing those five chemicals has been removed from the market. In addition, since spice is a synthetic drug changing one ingredient will no longer make the revised spice illegal. There are also issues regarding packaging new vs. old spice.
- 3) Bobbie asked committee members if they would be interested in participating in a Valley-wide effort to canvass outlets that sell spice. Individuals would make contact with the stores and to ask a series of questions to gather information on what is being sold as well as provide information. This would need to occur by February 2nd. **Randy Lazar** and **Tricia Gilman** volunteered to participate in Tempe efforts. Others who might be interested can email Bobbie.
- 4) **Randy Lazar** reported information on spice has been posted on the Tempe Union High School District webpage. **Bobbie** reported this information is also on the coalition webpage. In addition, Tempe Community Council recently released a Network Connections publication that focused on spice.

Agenda Item 4 – Drug-Free Communities Grant

- 1) Lynette Stonefeld reported she believes the coalition is in a good position to receive this grant. Feedback received from last year’s application indicated we missed the cut-off for funding by a couple of points. The RFP should be released in the very near future.
- 2) The grant will fund coalition activities and staff up to \$125,000.00 per year for five years. Two substances need to be targeted. Last year we submitted an application to target underage drinking and prescription drug use.
- 3) We recently received our 2010 Arizona Youth Survey data and due to a significant increase in participation by our schools over 1700 students took the survey. The survey indicates that alcohol is the number one substance used by Tempe youth, cigarettes is number two, and marijuana is number 3.
- 4) Input was requested by coalition members on whether we want to again focus on prescription drug use in our new RFP or whether we want to change the second substance to marijuana.
- 5) Discussion occurred among committee (coalition) members and included the following:
 - While marijuana use is more prevalent we see youth dying of prescription drug abuse, particularly when used with alcohol.
 - The legalization of marijuana for medicinal purposes is likely to increase use/abuse in Arizona and give the message that use of marijuana is acceptable and not harmful.

- Since alcohol and marijuana have both been identified as gateway drugs the question was posed whether this committee (coalition) wants to focus efforts on prevention or harm intervention.
 - Community Bridges (Mesa), ICAN (Chandler), and CPLC (Phoenix) have DFC grants and selected marijuana and alcohol as their substances to address. The DFC grant prefers collaboration between recipients and selecting marijuana could allow the Valley recipients to collaborate more effectively on projects and have a greater overall impact.
 - **Norm Saba** suggested if marijuana is selected by the committee the coalition could also still focus on the harms of prescription drug use as related to underage drinking.
- 6) The committee determined that underage drinking and marijuana use will be the substances we will focus on in our DFC application.

Agenda Item 5-Community Readiness Assessment (CRA) Survey

Bobbie Cassano thanked committee members for their sector referrals. She has enough community members in each sector to complete the CRA survey. Bobbie reminded members to also take the survey.

Agenda Item 6 – Grant and Program Updates

- 1) **Bobbie Cassano** reported Tempe Community Council intern **Kelsey Wolf** will assist the coalition on marketing efforts as well as the mapping project analysis.
- 2) **Tricia Gilman** reported efforts are underway with the peer leaders to continue the mapping project.
- 3) **Kim Bauman** announced solicitation of 2011 YouthFest Courage Awards recipient nominations in underway. Nominees must attend school in Tempe and/or reside in Tempe. Nomination packets have been distributed to the Tempe high and middle schools. Kim will email the nomination packets to committee members in case they, or their colleagues, know of Tempe youth who should be nominated. The recognition dinner will occur on Monday, April 25th at the Tempe Mission Palms Hotel.
- 4) **Lynette Stonefeld** reported a number of free early childhood classes have started. She will email the calendar to Kim to send out to members.

Agenda Item 7 – Announcements

- 1) **Bobbie Cassano** announced the preliminary findings from our Town Hall surveys indicate there was nearly unanimous support for having a social host ordinance and locking up liquor after the event, while only mixed support before the event. She will have more information on the outcomes at our next meeting.
- 2) **Kim Bauman** announced the Mayor's Youth Advisory Commission Youth Town Hall will occur on February 17, 2010. The topics selected this year are "environmental sustainability," "teen sexual pressure," and "school drop-out." Members should have received an invitation to participate in the event in the mail.
- 3) **Bobbie** thanked **Norm Saba** and **Kelley Lind** for hosting this month's meeting and for conducting tours of Cardon Children's Medical Center before and after this meeting.

Agenda Item 8 – Future Agenda Items

- Coalition Functioning Instrument – committee members will complete at our next meeting.
- Drug Free Communities grant
- Subcommittee Updates
- Town Hall survey outcomes

Please contact Kim Bauman or Bobbie Cassano with future agenda items.

The committee's next meeting will be on **February 8, 2011 at 4:00 p.m.** in the Tempe Public Library Connections Program Room

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Prepared by: Kim Bauman

Ilene Dode, Chair