



## Mayor's Task Force on Youth Alcohol & Drug Use

Tuesday, May 12, 2009 – 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Northfield Community Resource Center

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**Members Present:** Pat Allen, Curt Benson, Kathy Cooper, Patty Gallivan, Sharon Henry, Mary Nelson, Susan Sanderson,

**Members Absent:** Joan Janusz, Kris Vohs

**Guests:** Ellen Haberoth, Judi Malecha, Kris Matson, Zach Pruitt

Members were welcomed to the meeting. Motion by Patty to approve the April 2009 minutes, seconded by Mary. Minutes were unanimously approved.

2009 Budget – Revision – See handout. Motion by Mary to approve the revised version of the budget, seconded by Patty. Motion unanimously approved.

### Discussion of meeting with Northfield Police Chief Mark Taylor & Rice County Sheriff Richard Cook

- It was noted that one can clearly see that Chief Taylor and Sheriff Cook are collaborating on initiatives, which is very encouraging.
- Judi & Ken Malecha will follow-up with Chief Taylor regarding a canine unit in Northfield.
- Student guest Bret Knutson provided some valuable insights from a youth perspective.
- Several Task Force members believe that the police reports in the *Northfield News* are a useful tool for the community and parents. Judi volunteered to continue to connect with Chief Taylor about the police reports running in the newspaper.

### Task Force Membership – Recommend slate for 2009 & 2010 – See handout

- Current members are asked to sign a letter that they are still interested. The Task Force is recommending that the term be from January 1, 2009 – December 31, 2011. The proposed members for 2009 are Pat Allen, Curt Benson, Katherine Cooper, Patty Gallivan, Sharon Henry, Joan Janusz, Judi Malecha, Kris Matson, Mary Nelson, and Susan Sanderson. Motion by Kathy C. to recommend slate, seconded by Mary Nelson. Motion approved. Zach will forward this to Mayor Rossing and City staff.

### Updates on Task Force initiatives

- Presentation to City Council – Mary and Sharon presented to the City Council and provided them copies of the Task Force's "Report to the Community." The council seemed familiar with what the Task Force has been doing and it was made clear that the Task Force is responding about getting information to the community.
- Distribution of "Mayor's Task Force Report to the Community" – It was suggested that the report be available at the medical clinics, hospital, library, schools, alcohol providers and pharmacies. It was recommended to mail a copy to each faith community and let them know if they want more to contact us. Also, all agreed the report should be on the Task Force's

website. Mary will coordinate the distribution of the report. Judi and Kris M. offered to distribute to the medical community. Kathy C. agreed to pass out to the Rice County Safe Communities Coalition. Other suggested audiences included school staff, elected officials (local, county, and state level), and alcohol license holders. It was also suggested that once it is online, a blurb could be included in the City's newsletter that is distributed with the water bills.

- Stakeholders meeting with liquor license holders – The City Council called a meeting with liquor licensees about server training. Information from the meeting included:
  - Some do training on their own and, in some places, servers cannot work until the training is complete.
  - Holders lobbied for online training as an option.
  - Some were against changing training time limit.
  - They all have passed the last compliance test.
  - Corporate companies such as Kwik Trip have their own very strong rules and training plans.
  - A concern for the licensee is over serving as some patrons come in already intoxicated.
  
- Medication Disposal Box – Sites will open in the fall at the Faribault and Northfield Police Departments. There is a strong group working on the “Medication Safe Disposal” campaign. A brochure is being created and the Rice County Fair will be the first place that it will be promoted.
  
- Other - Pure Performance – Northfield High School Activities Director Tom Graupmann is bringing speaker John Underwood to the High School on September 1 or 2, 2009. He will be giving three speaking presentations – teacher workshop, athletics meeting and a community presentation. Tom is asking the Task Force to host John for either dinner or lunch. All agreed this would be a good thing for the Task Force to do. Curt will pass this along to Tom.
  
- Other - Heroin Sentencing - At both recent sentences, representatives from the Task Force read Victim Impact Statements. Last week, the 19 year old was sentenced for 86 months and will serve 58 months. Today, John Frank was sentenced for 56 months.
  
- Other - Overview/Study of ZAP program – When they visited last month, Chief Taylor and Sheriff Cook expressed a willingness to work with the Task Force on this. Pat and Curt offered to help. Kris Matson suggested that the group first consider whether it wants to be involved in doing evaluations/surveys and the process whereby the Task Force decides to conduct research. She offered to do some research into a potential process before the next meeting.
  
- Other – Connecting with the middle school alcohol incident –
  - There was an opportunity to inform parents and the community and it was missed.
  - Several Task Force members worried that if the school does not raise awareness about this, then youth will think it is okay.
  - Questions were raised about what the district policy is regarding informing parents about instance like this. How and when is it communicated? Additional research into this is necessary.

Meeting adjourned.

*Respectfully submitted by Ellen Haberoth*