



Mayor's Task Force on Youth Alcohol & Drug Use
October 3, 2011 – 7:00-9:00 p.m.
Northfield Community Resource Center

Members Present: Kathy Cooper, Patty Gallivan, Paul Hart Ruthenbeck, Joan Janusz, Jackie McBeain, Susan Sanderson, Kris Vohs

Members Absent: Curt Benson, Judi Malecha, Kris Matson, Mark Mohlke

Guests: Zach Pruitt (staff support), Tina Severson (community member), Dan Varness (community member)

Members were welcomed to the meeting. Tina and Dan were introduced and thanked for coming.

Motion by Joan to approve the minutes from the September 2011 meeting. Seconded by Paul. Motion unanimously approved.

Mayor's Task Force financials and 2012 budget

The group reviewed the 2011 Mayor's Task Force expenses through September 30, 2011. The Mayor's Task Force has spent \$9,508.76, leaving \$6,241.24 remaining through the end of 2011.

Motion by Jackie to accept the September 2011 financials. Seconded by Kathy. Motion unanimously approved.

Tim Madigan (Northfield City Administrator) requested that the Task Force submit its 2012 budget. The group reviewed the line items in the 2011 budget and decided to keep all of them at the same budgeted levels, with the exception of the line item "Halfway house support and community education," which would be removed. As a result, the 2012 budget request would be \$600 less than the awarded 2011 budget.

Motion to approve the 2012 budget request of \$15,150. Seconded by Jackie. Motion unanimously approved.

All agreed that the budget may be adjusted after the Task Force has set its 2012 priorities.

Report from the Engagement/Monitoring Group

Kathy reported that a subcommittee of Mayor's Task Force members met to discuss the future directions of the court monitoring program. The key questions centered around: 1) Should the Mayor's Task Force continue to be involved in court monitoring? and 2) What should be done with the data that has been collected through the court monitoring program?

After considerable discussion, the committee recommended to continue the task force's involvement in the court monitoring program through the end of December 2011 and then to re-evaluate it in January 2012 (likely in conjunction with the Mayor's Task Force's annual retreat).

Beyond court monitoring, there is interest among this committee in looking at data and monitoring trends as they relate to youth drug and alcohol use. Additional discussion on this will occur in upcoming months.

Annual retreat

In recent years, the Mayor's Task Force has hosted an annual retreat. This has provided valuable time to look back at the group's work over the previous years and to plan for future initiatives.

All agreed that having a retreat in early 2012 is a good idea. The group set the date for Monday, January 9, 2012, from 5:00-9:00 p.m. The preferred location is the Carleton College Alumni Guest House (the location of last year's retreat).

Jackie, Kathy, and Patty volunteered to work on the retreat planning committee.

Among the recommended retreat topics included:

- How do we know that we are effective?
- Court monitoring: Where do we go from here and what does this program look like in the future? What does the future involvement of the Mayor's Task Force look like?
- What new initiatives would the group like to undertake? (Suggestions raised included expanding to more work with youth/parents at the elementary school level, looking at alcohol consumption by adults on youth sports association trips, and considering expansion of Pure Performance)

Process for reviewing Mayor's Task Force applications

Based on the discussion at the group's September meeting, Zach presented a draft of a proposed process for the review and recommendation of new members to the Mayor's Task Force. The task force provided feedback, including suggesting that an orientation packet be created to present to new members. Zach will modify the proposed process based on this feedback and bring a draft to the November meeting.

Kathy, Jackie, and Paul offered to work with staff to help design a new member orientation packet. They will meet prior to next month's meeting, with the goal of having the orientation packet completed by the start of 2012.

The task force discussed the process for following up with community members who attend a Mayor's Task Force meeting. It was decided that after their first visit, staff would send an email thanking them for visiting, as well as a copy of the annual "Report to the Community." After their second visit, staff would call them, thanking them for attending and outlining the member application process (if they are interested).

Other updates

- Paul and Jackie presented to the Northfield City Council in September about the work of the Mayor's Task Force. Joan was available to answer questions. All agreed that they did a fantastic job!
- Kathy shared that there have been a total of three social host ordinance citations in Northfield since the ordinance went into effect. There was some uncertainty about the process for prosecuting these individuals. Kathy, Kris, Joan, and Paul will meet with Chris Hood (Northfield City Attorney) to gain a better understanding of this process. They will share the information at the next meeting.
- The Mayor's Task Force is interested in having a representative regularly attend the meetings of the Rice County Chemical Health Coalition's Enforcement Team. It is hoped that this person could serve as a liaison between the two groups. He/She would also be able to update the Enforcement Team on work of the Mayor's Task Force. Zach said he thought this was a great idea and would bring it up at the next Enforcement Team meeting.

Meeting adjourned. *Respectfully submitted by Zach Pruitt*