

BRANCH COUNTY



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Branch County Substance Abuse Task Force Minutes

Tuesday June 3, 2014

Call to order: 9:02am

Introductions: Frank Snyder, Rod Olney, Keith Eichler, Kim Hemker, Joe Scheid, Bree Harmon, Harold Sneath, Courtney Dirschell, and Achilles Malta

Approval of Minutes: Harold motioned, Kim seconded.

OLD BUSINESS:

-Bree read the thank-you note the task force received from Mr. Brown regarding his award.

Newsletter Articles:

-**May articles were passed around** - Alcohol Q & A and Awards. Courtney explained that the Parents who Host article has been released to the press but has not been ran in the paper yet.

-**June Articles** - Task Force decided to keep the boating safety article and Keith Eichler volunteered to write it. Also it was suggested by Achilles that an article corresponding to a Smart Summer article be released in late June.

-**July Articles:** It was discussed that with the 4th of July, maybe a firework safety/alcohol article be written. Joe Scheid reported that fireworks will now be sold at WalMart in Coldwater so it's assumed we will see a lot of fireworks in Branch Co. around the 4th of July. Joe offered to write this article.

Presentations/Campaigns:

Parents Who Host update - Bree reported on all of the road signs for the campaign and estimated that there were between 60-70 signs out in Branch County --- **Town Hall Meeting:** Bree updated the committee on the fact that Relay for Life wasn't willing to have us participate because it didn't directly relate to cancer so I filled them in on Charlene and told them we may be needing some volunteers to help with prevention that day

Health/Community Fairs: Strawberry Festival – Bree updated everyone on the skirts, our location in the shade, and having a prevention booth at Strawberry Fest on June 21st.

Meth Container: Nothing reported although no one from the state police post was present.

Med Box: 22 lbs in the month of May --- Keith commented on how this was a lower number than last month.

Website Stats: Bree didn't have any and no one from the health dept. was present so we didn't have any. I suggested that we were still working with google analytics for stats.

NEW BUSINESS:

Smart Summer Campaign: Achilles and Bree tag-teamed a discussion on smart summer campaign. It was discussed that it has been tried before but didn't work out. Achilles offered information on some of the messages and how the campaign works

Drug Free Communities Grant: Bree suggested that Sue was looking into Branch County applying for it. Achilles discussed how the grant helps with activities, that it's a 5 year cycle, and he suggested that you have to have a coalition built for at least 6 months and have 12 sectors represented. Courtney asked where the money came from and Achilles told her it money from SAMHSA and the federal govt.

Courtney mentioned that she had posted on social media the "Talk Sooner" app that Barry County has created or worked to create. Achilles said that Barry was able to afford this app from the grants they had received.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Kim Hemker – Backpack Buddies lunch at Applebee's – she reported that with the continuing growth and money raised, the program is looking at expanding to other towns in Branch County next year --- possibly Bronson or Quincy.

Kim Hemker – Bridges Out of Poverty – An educational forum on why individuals make the decisions that they do. She stated they have speakers coming in and will be presenting the information in 2 sessions.

Meeting adjourned at 9:31am.