



Parents Matter Coalition of Pierre/Fort Pierre
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Parents Matter Coalition Meeting was held on Wednesday, September 12, 2012, 5th Floor Conference Room of St. Mary's Health Care Center. Attending: Carmella Bourk, Bonnie Nickels, Amy Stephens, Katie Tostenson, Mike Stroup, Colleen Weiss, Larry Weiss, Elton Blemaster, Teresa Schmidt, Amy Beshara, Denise Venner, Mark Venner, Jan Johnson, Ruby Douglas, Elaine Scott.

Larry W. – called the meeting to order at 12:15.

Minutes from the June meeting were approved.

Packets were handed out for each participant with the agenda and all the information being discussed at the meeting today.

Introductions/Agenda – The Agenda was approved as printed.

- Riggs Homecoming Parade involvement was discussed. Parents Matter partnered with Teen Court and had a float. Larry W. and Ruby D. handed out Snicker candy bars, that were provided by Walgreens of Pierre. Ruby also handed out bookmarks with the E Checkup to Go information on a card. Larry rode on the float. It was very nice and the parade was a huge success.
- Elton & Mark commented on the Medical Amnesty. Parents Matter is just going to have to keep educating all on this issue and watch to see if it comes up in Legislature.
- Ruby Explained the Check Up to Go. This will be up on the Parents Matter website for persons to participate until October 1, 2012. It is a anonymous, self check-up for adults.
- Kit for Parents from the National Association for Children of Alcoholics. Has very useful information.
- Copies of the financial report were included in the packet. Larry just confirmed the there was \$74,425.30 remaining in our budget.
- Membership Agreements were included in the packet and Ruby asked that anyone who has not filled one out to do so.
- Halloween Night at Hilgers Gulch will be from 4:30 – 7:30 Halloween. The Game Fish and Parks has asked that we have a table at this event. The tables are placed along to trail and people can stop and get information and be safe. The Game Fish & Parks will provide candy. Parents Matter has some Pretzel packets and Popcorn, that were donated, and we will hand them out. Volunteers are needed to help with this.
- Christmas at the Capital was discussed. We have had a tree in the past and we will have a tree this year also. The theme is "Joyous Sounds of Christmas". The trees must be decorated the week-end before Thanksgiving. Volunteers are needed.
- Larry reminded us that we should always thank the businesses for all they do for us. Walgreens for the Snicker Bars and Burnt Offerins for furnishing our meal at the September meeting.

- Elton – reported on the Police Report. He said it is staying pretty much steady. But is really down from a number of years ago.
- Larry reported on the Teen Driving Task Force, they will be meeting at Red Rosa at 10:00 am on September 24, 2012. There will be lots of discussion on many topics concerning teen driving. They may make a recommendation to Legislature possibly changing driver license laws for teens, or making adjustments. Texting laws may come up. The Texting Law in Sioux Falls has opened the door for others to follow. Public is invited to give input for this meeting.

Jan, Urban Indian Health reported on suicide prevention, they have received a grant to partner with others. Friends Forever, Parents Matter, Growing Up Together, Julie Moore were in attendance at a meeting with Jan. She explained that Beverly Cobain will be coming to present a program on suicide prevention. Information will be forthcoming on these meetings.

Ruby talked of changing the October Parents Matter Meeting to one of the schools where many students and teachers could take a moment to attend. Mike S. said there would be no problem with that except that at lunch time the schools are very busy feeding the children. Mike stated they would be willing to work with Ruby to get a time that would work for everyone for the October 10, 2012 meeting.

Halloween at Hilger's Gulch, the Game Fish and Parks will provide tables around the trail and we will need volunteers to be at our table/booth. We have Popcorn, Pretzels and Snicker Bars to hand out for the youth along with fliers and materials for the Parents.

Ruby – reported that Project Connect will be held again this year at Faith Lutheran Church from 3:00 – 8:00 pm. There will be many services available for persons to participate in. Ruby stated there will be computers there for persons to do E-CHUG (E-Check Up To Go). She asked that if anyone has lap tops they would be willing to be used for this let her know Amy from Head Start said she thought she may be able to get one or two. Volunteers are needed to help with this.

The updated version of the Parents Matter Coalition of Pierre/Fort Pierre, Membership Agreement was available.

Meeting adjourned.

Burnt Offerins Catering provided lunch and John Hiller Walgreen's provided the Snicker Bars to be used in the Homecoming Parades. Please remember to stop in and thank these businesses.

Door prize was a book "Emotional Sobriety" winners of the drawings were Mike Stroup, Denise Venner, and Jan Johnson.

Respectfully submitted,
Elaine Scott, Administrative Assistant
Parents Matter Coalition