



Parents Matter Coalition was called to order at 12:00 noon, September 14, 2011 by Chairman Larry Weiss.

Members and Guests present: Michelle Major via skype, Ruby Douglas, Larry Weiss, Lori Jacobson, Cheryl Arguello, Tito Arguello, Kristen Tabbert, Becci Scott, Stacia Nissen, Jan Johnson, Dee Dee Dugstad, Elton Blemaster, Amy Beshara, and Elaine Scott

Minutes: Approved the minutes of the Aug. 10 meeting and to accept.

Agenda: Approved the agenda.

Amy Beshara – Spoke to the group about “Tell It To Me Straight” a dinner event that helps adults gain a greater understanding of issues facing youth. John... leads this event and her was in Pierre 4 or 5 years ago and the program was very well accepted. The host would have to provide the meal which is a course meal and is part of the program. The presentation is approximately 2 hours long..

Amy said there was a shortened version of “Tell It To Me Straight” at the Ramkota on September 19 & 20 at 5:30, cost \$12.00. If you plan on going you need to get your reservation in by Sept 16. You may pay the night of the event.

Amy stated, John... is doing only 2 more dinners this year and then they will have to wait for new funding which comes in February. The group seemed interested and Ruby will pursue this further.

Homecoming Parades: Ruby told about the plan to have distributed in the Pierre and Stanley County Homecoming Parades, Snicker candy bars with the Parents Matter Logo and the slogan “Underage Drinking is Nothing to Snicker at”. Ruby is checking to see if we can get some kind of a permanent banner to use in parades and events.

Pride Survey: Ruby met with both Pierre and Stanley County school boards to ask about doing the “Pride Survey” both schools are planning to do this sometime in the fall.

Parents Matter: The funding has been approved (\$65,000) and these funds will go until May 31, 2012. The work plan is on the website for Parents Matter. The plan calls for 100 people to be interviewed with a one on one interview with 5 or 6 questions. It is very important to build partnerships.

One strategy that we will be working on is the Host Liability “Social Policy”. The CMCA books should be here soon. Larry suggested that Ruby email members when the books arrive and a small group could get together and review.

Drug Free Communities Grant: was denied, no new grants were issued, there were only renewals. Future applications will be submitted by the Parents Matter Coalition. Ruby suggested that groups get together to fill out the grant applications and then each group could put in the specific items that represented their group. The total funds are \$125,000 for five years.

Halloween activity October 20: Halloween at the Pierre Mall. We are thinking of doing bags of Popcorn with a slogan on them pertaining to our Parents Matter Coalition. We will need persons there to hand out treats and get people signed up to receive the Parents Matter news letter. We will discuss at the next meeting.

Arrest Report – August 2011 (LLW)

30 underage drinking arrests in August

26 drug arrests

This is up from the last months. The question was asked about how the arrests were made, in vehicles, hotels, or where were they made. Some of all of these was the answer.

Other Items/Input? – Ruby mentioned about the lunches for meeting being provided by different businesses we will then advertise on the back of our news letter. Merriman Printing is doing the News Letter. Larry will ask a couple of places. Becci Scott said the Stanley County Booster Club would provide the meal in October she will not be here but she will have someone from the Booster Club represent her.

Becci asked for Social Policy cards to hand out to people at the parade with the Snicker Bars.

Next Meeting October 12, 2011 – Noon – 5th Floor, St. Mary's Healthcare Center.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:

Elaine Scott, Administrative Assistant