

LAWRENCE ALCOHOL AND DRUG ALLIANCE

MINUTES

February 22, 2011

5:00 P.M.

Present: Carol Chamberlain, Chairperson  
Steve Groeger, Recreation Superintendent  
Tonia Moore, LMTI  
Melody Powell, PEI Kids  
Jim Kownacki, Council Liaison  
Kelly Nitti, Camp Fire  
Margarita Leahy, Rider University  
Melissa Bevford, Project Graduation  
Dehlia Claussen, Project Graduation  
Absent: Betty Donahue, Coordinator  
Kim Taylor, Community Representative  
Rich Monacchio, Community Representative

- A. Member introductions were completed.
- B. The minutes for the January 25, 2011 meeting were reviewed and approved.
- C. Grant Reports
  - a. Camp Fire – Safe and Sure classes are currently being taught at the Lawrenceville Elementary School.
  - b. LMTI – The LMTI group at Lawrence High School meets every Thursday at 3:00 pm. The group coordinates various events to promote natural high and alternative activities to using drugs and alcohol.
  - c. Coordinator – Carol Chamberlain reported on behalf of Betty Donahue. The county has not received approval of the 2011 grant yet. The stress management training that was scheduled for this meeting will be re-scheduled at a later date. Betty will be stepping down as the coordinator. Carol announced the position of coordinator is vacant and the LADA will be hiring a person for the position. A copy of the job description is available for anyone interested.
  - d. PEI Kids – The anti-bullying program, “No More Bullies” has been completed in 14 classes at LIS.
  - e. Project Graduation- Two representatives from Project Graduation were present. The representatives thanked the Alliance for the grant money they have received. They also indicated the sub-committees for Project Graduation have been formed and are on track with their activities. Project Graduation meets the first Monday of every month at the Lawrence High School library at 7:00 p.m.
  - f. DARE – No report.

- g. Community Awareness- Carol reported the LADA is looking for community programs to attend to distribute information about the LADA and the programs which are funded by the LADA.
- D. Support of Sober Students- Margarita Leahy spoke to the group about the SOS group she started at Rider University. It is a support group for college students who are in recovery. Rider University is permitting the group to meet on campus. There are currently students from Rider, Princeton University and TCNJ participating in the group. Margarita is hoping to expand the group to other college students in the area.

The SOS group is currently trying to identify ways to reach other students in recovery. They have purchased two domain names for websites. Also a survey on sobriety has been created for students. The group is currently looking for funding to implement and expand the program.

Tonia Moore congratulated Margarita on the establishment of the group. She suggested funding from the Alliance. She also asked Margarita if the students would be willing to speak with high school students, either in health class or at a LMTI meeting. Tonia also mentioned that Ramapo and Bucknell have sobriety groups on their campuses too.

Kelly Nitti said the City of Angels is planning to work with college students. The group is called the “Campus of Angels”. Margarita said the group is looking for locations to meet. They currently meet at Gil Chapel on Rider’s campus. A.A. also meets at Gil Chapel on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.
- E. 2011 Grant- Carol Chamberlain said she has not received approval of the 2011 grant from the county. It is expected the grant approval will be discussed at the county alliance meeting on March 9<sup>th</sup>. All LADA members are welcomed to attend the meeting.
- F. By-laws – Copies of the by-laws were distributed to the Alliance members for review. The by-laws were written in 1999 but there is no record of the adoption of the by-laws. Carol Chamberlain said she reviewed the by-laws to Monica Barria, the Mercer County Alliance Coordinator at the audit and she said the by-laws were acceptable. Kelly Nitti made a motion to approve the by-laws. Melody Powell seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the by-laws were approved unanimously.
- G. County Audit – Carol Chamberlain informed the group the 2010 grant was audited by Monica Barria. The following action items were noted after review of the 2010 grant records.
  - A calendar of events shall be maintained for LADA activities. Carol requested grantees submit all activities to her on a monthly basis to be included on the calendar of events.
  - Any fees collected at fundraising events need to be reported. Therefore all grantees need to submit information on the fees which are collected at fundraising events.

- A community survey needs to be conducted. Suggested groups to survey in the community include recreation groups such as the swimming team and soccer teams, P.T.O. groups and possibly a survey through Quick News. Carol said she will check with other towns about community survey tools Being used. The purpose of the survey is to determine the level of awareness the community has about the Alliance and what the Alliance does.
- H. Other Business- Carol announced the coordinator position is vacant and the LADA is also looking for a student to take minutes at the meetings and to type the minutes. If there is anyone interested in either position, they can contact Carol at the health department.
- I. Next Meeting- The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 22 at 5:00 p.m. There will be a presentation by Capital Health on Stress Management at the meeting.
- J. The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Chamberlain  
Chairperson