

15th District Drug Coalition
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Website: StopMethNow.com



General Meeting
Thursday, November 1, 2007 at 12:00 p.m.
Danville First Baptist Church

Minutes

Submitted by Vicki Sutton.

20 Members were in attendance from 15 organizations.

Gary McElligott:

- Gave an update regarding the Dardanelle Schools Resource Officer and told the committee the Dardanelle Schools approved funding, and that Montie Sims was moving forward to locate someone for the position.

John Foster:

- Went to Dardanelle Middle School on October 22, and gave a speech. He stated that it went very well and the students paid close attention. He also stated that during the assembly at the high school there was a lock down at the Middle School with lockers being searched. He was happy to report that no drugs or alcohol were found.
- Also went to Western Yell on October 25, 2007 to give the presentation on the Public Service Announcement campaign. He stated that they had given out red wrist bands for "Red Ribbon Week".

Barbara Madden:

- Brought brochures and workbooks to hand out from Drug Court that demonstrates how the program has helped participants, by being implemented into their lives. She stated the Drug Court has 7-8 attendees and they are doing well.

LeAnne Duvall:

- Gave a report on the financial account and reported the balance as \$1,478.57. She stated that she is working on donations from Wal Mart and the State Parks.

John Foster:

- Gave an update on the P.S.A. and website activity. He told the committee the website had approximately 25-30 hit per day.

Gary McElligott:

- Told the committee that at the marketing organizational meeting one week ago, they had come up with several great ideas for the campaign. He stated that some of the ideas were to use popular students for a 30 second commercial featuring the image of star athletes, using them for campaign posters, utilizing the big screen TV's at Wal Mart, using local TV stations with local kids, approach local bands, and U-Tube.

Jean Furr:

- Told the committee that she and the school councilors went on a trip to Hot Springs and attended a meeting that featured Milton Creagh as a speaker. She said they were very impressed with him and thought he would be a great speaker for the coalitions cause. She stated that we should consider using the funds available by the schools to obtain him. He charges \$3,500.00 for one day, which includes 3-day and 1-evening engagement. He also requires hotel, airfare, and meals.

Jessica Doehring:

- Also told the committee that she and fellow East Lab student Mercedes Anthony had also found a motivational speaker in Tennessee, David Parnell who he himself is a recovering meth user. He charges \$1,500.00 per two hour session, and \$500.00 for each additional speaking place. She said the kids listened to him very intently and learned a lot about the harm caused from meth use. She also passed around flyers that they had made for the PSA campaign and told the committee that they were to feature a "Poster of the Month" every two weeks and would like to go to other schools in Yell County to show a power point presentation of the devastations that meth can do to a person. She said that East lab is still interested in producing a mock meth lab scene.

Keith Kluthe:

- Made several blank 2008 calendars to pass out for each organization to fill in their events and bring to the next meeting. He will then compile a master calendar for the coalition. He also asked, "How we are to get those parents involved who show no interest in what their kids are doing?" he also told the committee that he also knows of a speaker the coalition might be interested in who spoke at the Columbine funerals.

Gary McElligott:

- Told the committee that the deadline for the mini grant is Monday November 5th. He also stated that Terry Love couldn't be present at the meeting today but said to get him something finalized by November 5th that can be entered. Corrections can always be made later.

Janet Cook:

- Told the committee Pope County has already applied for this grant. Yell County will need a membership list, train board members, mission statements, planning committees etc.

LeAnne Duvall:

- Made a motion to apply for the money/grant and piggyback on Pope County, but make it our own. **John Foster** seconded the motion and the motion was approved by all committee members present.

Joe Patterson:

- Explained to the committee that the Department of Human Services and Law Enforcement need to work together to protect the children and make it a priority to get those drug endangered children out of the home by breaking the chain and getting the parents away from those kids.

Gary McElligott:

- Told the committee that at the next meeting we will be electing the 2008 officers. Currently the 2007 officers are; Tom Tatum Chair, Bill Gilkey co-chairman, and he (Gary) is Secretary Treasurer. He also stated that he felt it was time to get someone with fresh new ideas to fill his place.
- The next meeting is set for December 6th at noon at the Dardanelle Community Center.

The meeting adjourned at 1:13 p.m.