

MINUTES: Healthy Carolinians of Macon County – Substance Abuse Task Force

DATE: February 9, 2011

PLACE: Health and Human Services Building

TIME: 2:00 – 3:30 PM

ATTENDEES: Stephanie Almeida, Rhonda Blanton, Jim Bottomley, Tony Corbin, Jennifer Garrett, Marci Holland, Kathy McGaha, Michael O'Donnell, Will Rhoden and Patti Tiberi

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
Welcome and Approval of Minutes	Tony Corbin welcomed everyone to today's meeting of the Substance Abuse Task Force. Mr. Corbin asked the task force members to review the minutes of the last meeting. Stephanie Almeida motioned for the approval of the minutes. Jennifer Garrett 2 nd the motion, with a unanimous vote for approval.		
Introductions	Tony Corbin asked everyone to introduce themselves and tell what organization they represented.		
Update Middle School Project	Marci Holland explained that Victoria Mahler could not attend today's meeting. Ms. Holland said the plan had been to bring the designs for the flyers that the students had done and vote on them. Ms. Holland stated that she had left the designs at school. Ms. Holland said she would update the task force on this topic at the next meeting.		
Visit to Local Shops	<p>Tony Corbin expressed Sheriff Holland's regrets at not being able to attend today's meeting. Mr. Corbin introduced Det. Will Rhoden. Mr. Rhoden will update the task force members on "herbal incense" products.</p> <p>Mr. Rhoden passed around a copy of the letter that Sheriff Holland sent to local business owners asking them not to sell "herbal incense" products in their establishments.</p> <p>Mr. Rhoden explained that the present count of stores selling these products were – 5 in Franklin and 1 in Highlands. Mr. Rhoden said one store in Franklin did agree to stop selling these products once their current stock was gone.</p>		

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	<p>Ms. Holland informed the other task force members of the Facebook page that one of the local head shops has and how many students were friends on it and also had their pictures on it. Ms. Holland said the task force members should check the page out.</p> <p>At the last meeting, Sheriff Holland asked the task force members to check out the local head shops. Mr. Corbin asked the task force members to try and visit these shops before the next meeting.</p> <p>Ms. Garrett passed around a Florida newspaper article on “herbal incense” products. The article was very informative and the task force members thanked her for sharing it.</p>		
Methadrone	<p>At the last meeting, the task force members briefly discussed methadrone. Mr. Corbin had volunteered to investigate this topic and report on it at the next meeting.</p> <p>Mr. Corbin said it appears the sale of this “legal substance” started in England. Mr. Corbin said this product is marketed as fertilizer and can be bought legally online or at head shops.</p> <p>Mr. Corbin said the product has listed “not for human consumption” on it. Some of the side effects are nose bleeds and/or a burning throat. Mr. Corbin did not think Methadrone was a problem yet in our county, but stated it would probably be wise to monitor it.</p>		
Other Items for Discussion	<p>Other Items for Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Det. Will Rhoden informed the task force members that another “Pill Crusher” event is planned for March 26th at the locations of Wal-Mart and Kmart. ○ Rhonda Blanton stated that several of the college students she had talked to said that “Eyeballing” 		

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	<p>was big on some college campuses. Eyeballing involves pouring alcohol directly into the eye(s).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Jennifer Garrett stated that recently she had picked a prescription up at a local pharmacy. She stated that after she arrived home and checked her prescription, she realized she had two prescriptions. Ms. Garrett said she contacted the pharmacy about this mix-up. If Ms. Garrett had not contacted the pharmacy, they would not have known what had happened to that particular prescription.○ Patti Tiberi updated the task force members on Teens in Action. Ms. Tiberi said a Teen Institute would be held this upcoming weekend in Haywood County, covering the topic of underage drinking. Ms. Almeida stated that there would be four representatives from Macon County.○ Kathy McGaha informed the task force members that the TRU Club was currently active in three schools – Franklin High School, Macon Middle School and Mountain View Intermediate School. Dawn Wilde is over this program.○ Marci Holland informed the task force members that Derek Roland had told the story of his brother and his death to the students at Union Academy. Mr. Roland’s story had previously had a big impact on the students at Macon Middle. Ms. Holland said Kyle Morgan had also talked to the Union Academy students about his wreck and subsequent paralysis.○ Marci Holland also stated that the SRO at Franklin High School – Danni Burrows would be doing Prom Promise at FHS around the time of the prom in May.		

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Next Meeting Date	The next meeting of the Substance Abuse Task Force is scheduled for Wednesday, March 9 th , from 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM in the Mae Shope Room at the Health and Human Services Building.		