Teen Advocacy Coalition

Meeting Minutes

April 14, 2014 - 3:15 to 4:45 p.m.

Grays Harbor College Riverview Campus, Raymond

In Attendance:

Bob Caetano (WBH), Emily Popovich (TRL), Erin Frasier (GHC), Geri Marcus (WBH), Katie Oien-Lindstrom (PCHD), Kristen Clouse (WBH), Natasha Nesbitt (TAC), Paul Wirkkala (PCJC), Sharon Block (PCHD) Tanya Schiller (volunteer).

Erin Frasier called meeting to order at 3:15 p.m.

Agenda Items:

1. Erin Frasier welcomed the group and members present stated their name and organization.
2. Show and Tell was tabled until the May Meeting.
3. The March 2014 TAC Meeting Minutes where reviewed but were not approved as a quorum was not present to do so.
4. The revised TAC Bi-Laws were reviewed but were not approved as a quorum was not present to do so.
5. Review of new membership documents was tabled until the May meeting.
6. Members present reviewed the budget. No changes or decisions were made as a quorum was not present to do so.
7. Asset Builder Nominations were discussed. Award coordination is behind schedule. Award coordination includes interviewing the recipient/references, creating a certificate, writing a press release, and orchestrating award presentation at a TAC meeting. Nominations and selections have already been made, and the project should get off the ground as soon as staff has time to make it happen.
8. Subcommittee Updates:
   * Members of the Town Hall Subcommittee discussed event planning and last minute designation of volunteer duties.
   * Natasha discussed the School Community Prevention Consultant project. The Prevention Consultants are becoming more familiar with students at the schools and will be meeting in the coming months to discuss potential trainings and activities.
   * Natasha discussed the Project Logo design contest and reported that there is potential to build capacity for youth arts at the schools. Students who participated in the contest expressed an interest in having more “art lab” activities. It would be possible to facilitate these types of events at the schools with very little overhead. Costs associated with the events would be for refreshments and small purchases of very basic supplies (glue sticks, scissors, etc.) Time spent by Natasha coordinating the events would be donated as match and not taken out of her salary. Her costs for travel would also be donated as match. The majority of supplies would be donated or collected by Natasha. It was noted that the demographic of students who participated in Project Logo was one that is currently not being served by other TAC projects. The types of students who participated seemed to either be very interested in art or not involved with other extracurricular activities and eager for a place to hang out (i.e. eat, play games, draw, and talk.) Art labs would help to expose interested students to the arts, but the larger purpose would be to use the accessibility of art as a catalyst to reach out and engage students who have time to volunteer and learn. There is potential to strengthen connections with students through these types of activities. Board members agreed that there is potential but prefer that the Peer Helpers program be better utilized as the teen arm of TAC. They proposed finding an arts grant to fund art lab type activities. Natasha agreed to work on drafting bi-laws for the Peer Helpers groups and will be working with the groups to begin promoting the Peer Helpers retreat in October 2014.
9. Natasha announced the Rx Takeback Event will be held on Saturday, April 26th from 10 am to 2 pm at Everybody’s Supermarket in Raymond. The Raymond and South Bend Police Departments and Sheriff’s Office are involved with event coordination.
10. Natasha updated the group on a recent Bully Prevention Week held by the Raymond Peer Helpers. There was continued discussion about the Peer Helpers project and retreat.
11. Kristen announced that she will attend training to become a Mental Health First Aid Trainer. DFC funds will be used to pay for a portion of the training costs. After completion, she will be available to facilitate Mental Health First Aid classes for TAC.
12. Newsletter review was tabled until the May meeting.
13. Natasha put out a call for Capacity Building Subcommittee Members. Emily signed up.
14. The following agenda items were proposed for the May 2014 TAC Meeting:
    * Teen Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) summer training
    * Establish a Peer Helpers Subcommittee
    * Explanation of volunteer match reporting
15. Erin closed the meeting at 4:45 p.m.