

**Riverhead Community Coalition for Safe and Drug-Free Youth  
Meeting Minutes – March 8, 2018  
Riverhead Free Library  
330 Court Street, Riverhead, NY 11901**

*The mission of the Riverhead Community Coalition for Safe and Drug-Free Youth is to engage collaborative partners in the planning, implementation and evaluation of strategies that prevent youth substance use.*

<b>Present:</b>	<b><u>Organization</u></b>	<b><u>Sector</u></b>
Felicia Scocozza	Riverhead CAP	Program Director
Kelly Miloski	Riverhead CAP	Project Coordinator
Cynthia Redmond	Riverhead CAP	Parent
Kenny Rothwell	Riverhead High School	Youth
Pastor Enrique Lebrón	United Methodist Church	Religious
Liz Flood	Riverhead Recreation	Youth Serving
Gail Feldman	Suffolk County Dept. of Health	Government
Laurie Harrison	Riverhead Library	Youth Serving
Dennis Cavanaugh	Riverhead Town Police	Law Enforcement
Alison LaMonica	Family Service League	Other S.A. Agency
Beth Young	East End Beacon	Media
Sean Cassidy	CDTF	Government
Gabriel Manzueta	CDTF	Government
Sharon Goeller	Eastern Suffolk BOCES	School
Beth Maccagli	Riverhead JAB	Government
MaryEllen Adams	LIPRC	Other S.A. Agency
Louise Wilkinson	Kiwanis	Civic
Shannon Kutner	Riverhead CAP	Parent
Maggie Dufour	PTO	Parent
Catherine Kent	Riverhead Town Board	Government
Robert “Bubbie” Brown	First Baptist Church	Religious

I. Kelly opened the meeting at 2:35 PM and welcomed the coalition members. Introductions were made.

**II. Motion**

Robert Brown/Sharon Goeller to approve the February 8, 2018 coalition meeting minutes.

(Minutes can be found on CAP’s website at [RiverheadCAP.org/about/documents/](http://RiverheadCAP.org/about/documents/))

**III. DFC Application Projects**

*February Meeting Follow Up – Coalition Members*

Sharon reported that she enjoyed the work the coalition did last month to develop the Action Plan for the DFC grant application. She found it productive and informative.

*DFC Action Plan Review – Kelly Miloski*

Kelly reviewed the key points of the DFC Action Plan. Some of the recommendations made by the coalition are initiatives we are currently doing that will continue into the next grant cycle. Our grant evaluator was pleased with the new initiatives the coalition plans to move forward with.

*Focus Group – Felicia Scocozza*

While the DFC grant application requires empirical data to support funding, anecdotal is valuable in providing a clear understanding of local conditions. Felicia has been meeting with small focus groups and conducting informant interviews to gather additional information for the DFC grant. The DFC grant is due three weeks from today.

The coalition discussed the vaping issue in more depth. Kelly and Sgt. Cassidy are conducting an environmental scan of the local retailers that sell vape products. The coalition gave several suggestions of places to go.

**IV. Meet & Greet Committee – Liz Flood**

The Meet & Greet planning committee met last week to further develop plans for the April 12<sup>th</sup> event. In the spirit of youth empowerment, the Riverhead Youth Coalition will headline the event and present some of the work they have been doing in the community. In line with Riverhead Central School District's #ThisIsRiverhead campaign, the Meet & Greet will be largely focused on the positive contributions of youth and how caring community members help foster prosocial youth behavior. Liz and Beth have developed a fun, Wheel of Fortune game for guests to learn more about the coalition. We will have a resource table for our community partners and the RYC will be conducting a survey of guests. Kelly sent around a sign-in sheet for event volunteers.

**V. RYC Presentation at LIPRC Networking Event – Kenny Rothwell**

Kenny reported that the RYC conducted a presentation on February 15, 2018 at the Bayport-Blue Point Library at the request of the LIPRC. The RYC talked about the work they have done to educate the public about the risks associated with vaping, the coalition's successful Medication Take Back events, and how their public service announcements have educated the public about youth substance use. Thank you to the LIPRC for the invitation and hospitality.

**VI. 2018 National Leadership Forum – Felicia Scocozza**

Last month, Felicia, Kelly, and Chief Hegermiller travelled to National Harbor, MD to attend the 2018 CADCA Conference. On behalf of the coalition, they accepted the Coalition of Excellence Award for Short-Term Outcomes. Our coalition was one of four coalitions nationwide to receive this award. Congratulations to the Riverhead Community Coalition for Safe and Drug-Free Youth!

Felicia and Kelly did a presentation regarding how to engage community partners to implement a town alcohol policy for fairs and festivals. Felicia reported that Greenport is now following Riverhead's lead and has taken some small steps to reign in the

alcohol consumption at the Maritime Festival by limiting the hours that alcohol can be sold.

**VII. NYS OASAS Learning Thursday Webinar Taping – Felicia Scocozza**

Felicia and Pam Mizzi from LIPRC taped a webinar for Learning Thursday in Albany which focused on environmental strategies and how to effectively implement them. It will air on the OASAS website on March 15, 2018.

**VIII. RCSD BOE Presentation – April 18, 2018 – Felicia Scocozza**

The Riverhead Board of Education has invited Felicia and the Riverhead Youth Coalition to make a presentation at the April 18, 2018 at 7:00 PM. This is a valuable opportunity to further grow our longstanding relationship with the school district and to highlight the work of the coalition. We are asking coalition members to make an effort to attend this meeting to demonstrate the level of support of the community.

**IX. Pre- Prom Events – Cynthia Redmond**

The RHS Class of 2018 Senior Prom will be held June 21, 2018 at the Atlantis Aquarium and Exhibition Center. However, this year the students will be bussed from RHS, as they had multiple issues with valet parking last year. Therefore, the senior class advisors have requested that we bring back the Pre-Prom Red Carpet Reception which we have agreed to do.

Last year, we were able to implement the mandatory pre-prom meeting, Prom Expo, for parents and students to attend in an effort to educate them about the medical and legal consequences of underage drinking and drug use. This was a significant policy change and one that we will continue this year. This is the only opportunity students have to purchase their prom tickets. PBMC has agreed to help offset the costs of both the Red Carpet Reception and the Prom Expo. The Prom Expo will be held Tuesday, April 24<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> from 6-8 PM at Riverhead High School.

At the Prom Expo, local businesses volunteer their time to highlight their prom services once the program portion of the evening concludes. Coalition volunteers are asked to identify and ask businesses to participate. We will also need volunteers for all three events. Please contact Cynthia at [outreach@riverheadcap.org](mailto:outreach@riverheadcap.org) if you're interested in helping out.

**X. Coalition Award – Sean Cassidy & Gabriel Manzueta**

Each year, the Air National Guard Counter Drug Task Force nominates a coalition they have worked with that demonstrates excellence. Sean wrote an extensive recommendation report and nominated Riverhead Community Coalition for Safe and Drug-Free Youth for the 2018 award. Out of the 25 Long Island coalitions, Riverhead won. Sean and Gabe presented the coalition with their trophy. Many thanks to the CDTF for this honor!

**XI. Group Photo was taken.**

## **XII. Community Announcements**

### **Riverhead CAP Bowling Bonanza – Thursday, March 15, 2018**

The Bowling Bonanza is selling out quickly so if you would like to join us, please sign your team up today! There will be amazing raffles and fun for everyone. Please contact Felicia or Cynthia for more information.

### **March Madness at First Baptist Church – Saturday, March 10, 2018**

Bubbie invited the group to send kids to this event where they will enjoy watching the games together and great food. Please contact Bubbie or First Baptist Church for more information.

### **Annual Easter Breakfast – Sunday, April 1, 2018; 8:30 AM – 10:30 AM**

The Men's Ministry of First Baptist Church of Riverhead will host this event in celebration of Easter. Tickets are available in the church office. Please contact the church at (631) 727-3446 for more information.

### **Eastern Suffolk BOCES and Literary Zone Career Fair – Wednesday, April 18, 2018**

This event will take place at Riverhead Free Library from 6:00 to 8:30 PM and will welcome adults who are seeking employment, need help with resume and interview skills, or simply need exposure to job fairs. Typically, there are about 40 employers involved in the event. Please contact Eastern Suffolk BOCES if you can host a table or can send participants.

### **The Butterfly Effect 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Best Friends Ball – March 24, 2018**

This fundraising event will take place at Rock Hill Country and will feature dancing, food, and open bar. Tickets are \$100 and proceeds will help fund the cost of sending 20-30 Butterflies to camp this summer.

### **Riverhead Parks and Recreation – Youth Job Fair – March 13, 2018**

This event will take place from 4:00-7:00 PM at the Senior Center in Riverhead and will focus on helping youth over the age of fourteen secure employment.

### **Suffolk County Task Force on Human Trafficking**

Gail reported that she has attended meetings and training to learn more about human sex trafficking in Suffolk County. Northwell Health has become a major partner in combatting this issue by training emergency doctors to identify and refer patients who are victims. Gail will keep us updated on this important issue as victims often develop substance abuse issues.

### **Chamber of Commerce**

Riverhead CAP is a member of the Chamber of Commerce but due to time constraints, staff aren't always available to attend. If any coalition member would like to attend on behalf of the agency, Riverhead CAP will cover the \$10 fee.

**Riverhead Town Board**

The coalition welcomed Riverhead Town Councilwoman, Catherine Kent, as the new liaison for the town board to the coalition.

**Parent University – Wednesday, March 21, 2018**

The coalition welcome Maggie Dufour as a new coalition member representing the Parent Sector reported that RCSD's Parent University will take place from 6:00 to 8:00 PM and will be focused on parents preparing their children for Kindergarten. The Blue Masques will perform for participants.

**Family Service League**

The coalition welcomed Alison LaMonica from Family Service League who informed us that FSL will now be providing adolescent outpatient substance abuse services. Alison reported that he agency is seeing many adults who are using Kratom, which can be purchased in convenience stores, as an opioid alternative.

- XIII. Next Meeting – Our Fourth Annual Meet & Greet will be held Thursday, April 12, 2018 from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM at the Riverhead Firehouse (540 Roanoke Avenue, Riverhead)**

**Meeting Venue Change: Effective May 10, 2018, we will be hosting our monthly meetings at Hyatt Place East End (451 East Main Street, Riverhead). Parking is available in the Riverhead CAP office parking lot (518 East Main St., Riverhead)**

- IV. Motion to Adjourn Meeting at 4:00 PM – Liz Flood/Beth Young**