



Riverhead Community Coalition for Safe and Drug-Free Youth Meeting Minutes September 14, 2023, 2:30 PM The Hyatt Peconic Conference Room & Zoom

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

Table with 3 columns: Present, Organization, Sector. Lists names of attendees and their respective roles and sectors.

I. Introductions

Bella opened the hybrid meeting at 2:30 PM. Member Introductions were made.

II. Approval of Minutes from July 13, 2023

Motion approved: Kaitlyn McClintock/Chief Hegermiller

III. Goal 1: Increase Community Collaboration

Pulaski Volunteer Opportunities

CAP is seeking adult community members to volunteer for the Too Good for Drugs Program at Pulaski Street Intermediate School this fall. CAP volunteers are paired with Riverhead High School and Middle School Peer Leaders to teach the fully scripted, monthly lessons. Between training and the lessons at Pulaski Street, the total monthly commitment is approximately 2-3 hours. We have a high need for bilingual volunteers. Please share the volunteer flyer with your network. If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering, please fill out the Volunteer Enrollment Form: Apply Here.

Increase Coalition Capacity

The coalition members broke up into smaller groups to discuss ways we can increase sector representation, particularly in the media and business sectors. It would also be advantageous to the coalition to have people who are bilingual.

The groups shared the following ideas:

- Media kits to new & existing businesses regarding the coalition
- Involve parents who have children in the district and are business owners
- Partner with Riverhead High School's Blue Waves News
- Advertise coalition meetings on social media
- Greater partnership with Tu Prensa
- Work with public relations team at PBMC Northwell Health

Coalition Member Spotlight – September Reveal!

We would like to highlight Georgianna Dolan-Reilly from LIPRC in our September Coalition Member Spotlight! Georgianna has been a longtime supporter and participant in the coalition. She consistently brings a high level of expertise, knowledge, and is always willing to help out with coalition initiatives and events. If Georgianna doesn't know it (which rarely happens), she finds out for us. Thank you Georgianna for being such an important partner and member of the coalition.

Coalition Member Spotlight – Nominate for December! [Nominate Here](#)

IV. Goal 2: Decrease Youth Substance Use

Marijuana

Zoning Regulation Town Discussion – Felicia Scocozza

Felicia reported that the Town of Riverhead Marijuana Committee reconvened last week to address complaints that the zoning regulations were too restrictive, and businesses were having difficulty identifying locations that were 2500 feet from schools, daycares, churches, etc. and would like the zoning distance to be reduced to 1000 feet. There was discussion about how many businesses are viable for a town this size. Proponents of marijuana businesses believe it is realistic for a town the size of Riverhead to house three to five businesses including one on-site consumption location. Riverhead CAP provided recommendations. The committee will reconvene at a later date to consider changes to the zoning,

Alcohol

The Riverhead Blues Festival

The coalition partnered with the Blues Festival organizers to provide wristbands, signage, and TIPS-trained seven people who would be serving alcohol and/or working the event. The event organizers enforced a two-drink maximum per sale, only offered three beverage stands, and had cup restrictions for alcohol sales.

The Riverhead Country Fair is October 8th and the coalition will be providing wristbands and signage.

Tobacco/Vapes

International Coastal Cleanup Month

The Riverhead Youth Coalition will be hosting a beach cleanup on Thursday, September 28th at 4:00 PM at Jamesport Beach and on October 2nd at 4:00 PM at Reeves Beach. RYC members will not only pickup litter but will also conduct an environmental scan to see if there is evidence of substance use on our local beaches. All coalition members are invited to attend.

Prescription Drugs

Mobile Medication Take Back Recap

On August 25th, we visited Foxwood Village, Glenwood Village, and Silver Village with Riverhead Police Department to collect unused, unwanted, and expired medication from seniors who may not have easy access to community take backs or the Medication Drop Box. In total, we collected 73 lbs. of medication from 35 participants.

Stop Throwing Out Pollutants (S.T.O.P. Day)

S.T.O.P. Day will be held Saturday, October 14th from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Riverhead Highway Department located at 1177 Osborne Avenue, Riverhead.

V. Community Announcements – Coalition Members

Southampton Youth Bureau, Justin Lettieri

The Southampton Youth Bureau is seeking high school seniors to mentor third and fourth grade students in a writing program.

The Southampton Youth Bureau will be offering numerous program including boxing and ballet. For more information regarding Southampton Youth Bureau program offerings, please contact them directly at (631) 702-2425.

Eastern Suffolk BOCES – Literacy Zone, Sharon Goeller

Eastern Suffolk BOCES offers adult education for people pursuing their GED, career training, English classes, etc. Programs are offered in Riverhead, Hampton Bays, and Southampton.

Riverhead Central School District, Sean O’Hara

Riverhead High School will celebrate homecoming on Saturday, September 30, 2023. Please join us for the parade and football game at McKillop Field.

VI. Meeting Adjourned at 3:12 pm

Motion Approved: Karen Keller/Bubbie Brown

VII. Next Meeting – October 12th, at 2:30 PM

Zoom Meeting – Meeting ID: 573 336 5291