

Metuchen Municipal Alliance
Minutes: Thursday May 9, 2013

Attendance: Kieran Esposito, Michael Scheller, Irene Morris-Nann, Dorothy Rasmussen, Kathy Liss, Kris Dubon, Mort Simpson, Steve Kitsko, Jackie Gibson, Mike Garni

- The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Chairperson Kieran Esposito.
- The April minutes were approved.
- Dorothy reported that Assemblyman Diegnan was drafting a bill, concerning prohibiting the sale of certain OTC drugs containing dextromethorphan to anyone under 18 years of age. Dorothy asked Mr. Diegnan to consider amending his proposed bill to more strictly monitor the sale of drugs containing dextromethorphan more akin to the way the sale of Sudafed is controlled because the drug is popular among college students and an age limit would not address the abuse potential among adults. After researching Councilwomen Rasmussen's feedback it was agreed the bill would be amended.
- Steve gave a treasurer's report: There is \$10,054 in the account. Last month's Magic Show fundraiser was very successful and netted over \$1000.
- Kris, Mort and Steve continue to work on the Website and report that it is still a work in progress. They invited the committee to look at it and to send any comments or suggestions to them in an email. They also requested that the committee continue to send text describing our sponsored programs that are listed that may need further explanation. Mort reported that he sends digital files to Morris Enyeart who manages the Borough Website and that this arrangement has been working well. Kris suggested that the Website be listed prominently on all our communications, e.g. the Magic Show flyer, in the future.
- Kathy stated that she needs a co-leader for the Youth Alliance. The group now meets monthly on a Saturday morning and Marcus Hicks has left the Alliance. Michael Scheller agreed to co-lead with her.
- Jackie Gibson, Board of Education liaison, reported that the school budget passed by a good margin and that Jonathan Lifton, Rose DeVries, and Michael Stern were elected to the Board. Jonathan is the President and Jackie is Vice President. She plans to attend the Alliance meetings regularly.
- Irene reported that ads for the agenda book should be sent in by July 1, and she has requested that committee members be in touch with any advertisers they may know who may need a reminder to be included for this year. She also mentioned that the Safe Sober Prom lawn signs would be ready within a week to be placed on properties and requested that the committee help with placing them. It was suggested that the committee might put a picture of the sign on Facebook and ask friends to take one.
- The meeting was turned over to Irene to discuss the committee's needs assessment of the community. Only one issue can be selected for the 2014-2017 grant cycle, and the committee needs to create a logic model for it, to include the problem, root causes, local conditions and data, and strategies/interventions. Sample logic models were distributed. Some possible community problems were discussed like marijuana use, prescription and OTC drug misuse and the abuse of

opiates. The committee will vote at our next meeting and begin filling out the logic model.

- The meeting was adjourned at 9:33 pm. The meeting will be held on Thursday June 13 at 7:30 pm.