**TNP Alcohol Committee**

**Minutes of 10/13/21 Meeting**

**Present:** Laila, Margaret, Diana R, Diamond, Ginger, Nicole

1. Updates from members
   1. Diana mentioned resurgence in angel dust (PCP) in community
   2. Nuvance Health is not testing for fentanyl or synthetic drugs
   3. Vaping was huge at the Oyster Festival
   4. SROs are being pulled a lot because there’s a shortage of officers
   5. ACTION: Follow up with NPD to hear their perspectives
   6. New CT website on counterfeit drugs: youthinkyouknow.org

**Follow Ups from Last Meeting:**

1. Connecting with Common Council about signage
   1. Margaret presented to Common Council committee on health & safety about mental health and substance use in Norwalk in 2021 - included recommendations on signage.
   2. We recommend signage at mall, DMV, beaches, city hall. Signage can include QR codes for more information with positive messaging. Some traditional signs, some digital.
      1. There was no Council discussion on the recommendations at the time
      2. Diana asked for follow up from Nick S., the council chair.
   3. ACTIONS:
      1. **Diamond** will draft letter to Common Council by next week representing TNP alcohol & marijuana committees
      2. When the letter goes out, we will let Committee Members know and **everyone** can push our own district council members and the at-large common council members to support working on signage, and send them a link to the document
      3. **Margaret** also follow up with Nick S
2. Mall Signage:
   1. ACTION: **Diamond** is following up with Anthony about this

**Workplan Discussion, continued (objectives 3 & 4):**

1. Objective 3 of our workplan: Increase familiarity with social host law. (Side note: Goal is to prevent underage drinking, not to get parents in trouble.)
   1. Strategy: Parent education
      1. Organize Freshman Forum for parents with kids
      2. Connect with events like prom, getting your license
      3. Do postcard campaign - tailored to different cultural groups (eg Caribbeans more conservative)
         1. Create a campaign using survey data
         2. Can use our survey data
         3. FUTURE ACTION: Work on infographics
   2. Strategy: Liquor Stickers - did this with liquor stores last year
      1. Do it again for Thanksgiving, New Years, St Pat’s, 4th of July
      2. Send reminders to liquor stores during holidays to take out the liquor stickers
      3. ACTION: Plan for Thanksgiving at next meeting. **Laila** will summarize who/ what - we can do press release & social media communications
   3. Discussion about social host law / awareness:
      1. Liquor Stickers campaign dovetails well with similar message to lock up marijuana and prescription drugs as well
      2. More engagement with police is needed before trouble starts. Police are doing a great job with DUIs and similar offenses but court tosses out the cases.(CT Counseling referrals are down 75%)
      3. Add in messaging related to public intoxication. People get picked up, sober up, what are the consequences? Discuss with NPD
2. Objective 4: Decrease teen drinking at beaches
   1. Strategies:
      1. Signs, lights at beaches
      2. Patrols at beaches
   2. Discussion: **Hold** for police discussion
3. Plan for next meeting:
   1. Wednesday, November 10th, 3-4pm
      1. **ACTION: Laila** to send new link
   2. Invite police to next alcohol committee meeting
      1. ACTION: **Margaret & Diamond will** reach out to Chief about connecting for both the alcohol and the MJ/vaping work
   3. Plan for Thanksgiving
   4. Review infographics?