

# The Montcalm Coalition to Prevent Underage Drinking



Minutes of 6/24/2011  
United Lifestyles Office ~ Greenville

**Members Present:** Carl Paepke (State or local governmental agencies with expertise in the field of substance abuse), Jenny Cordray (Businesses), Norma Sower (Organizations serving youth), Marjorie Mann (Law Enforcement), Terry Reeves (Businesses), Jim VanderLaan (Other organizations involved in reducing substance abuse), Paul Spittka (Religious or Fraternal Organizations).

**Others Present:**

**Agency Support Representatives:** L Quinn Lincoln, John Kroneck and Patti Warmington – Life Guidance Services Wellness & Prevention, Jill Worden – Riverhaven Coordinating Agency.

I) Welcome / Introductions

Chairperson K. Alexander welcomed everyone to the meeting. No introductions were necessary.

II) Consent Agenda – Minutes of May 20, 2011.

**Motion** by T. Reeves, **support** by M. Haefner to approve the consent agenda. **Motion Carried.**

III) Governing Board Updates-

- A) Approved youth grant.
- B) Approved budget update.
- C) Approved new meeting schedule.

IV) Budget

- A) Many expenses were shown – all had been pre- approved by the Governing Board
- B) N. Sower questioned the amount that had been paid for the evaluator. She asked that an explanation of his work for the Coalition be given for the fee that we paid since nothing has been reported to any of the Coalitions to date. She noted that during the CADCA training, she noted how much value was placed on the evaluation of not only the data of facts, but also the Coalition and its work. It was agreed that the evaluator attend the next Governing Board meeting to share his progress, and what evaluations he expects to perform for the Coalition. L Q. Lincoln will let him know date and time and expectations for him for the next Governing Board meeting.

C) P. Warmington gave a brief update of where we are with items for the year to date of the DFC grant. She noted that we were over in some line items and under in others. But that we seemed on track for this part of the fiscal year.

V) Coalition Goals and Actions: Awareness and Education – Goal 1

- A) L Q. Lincoln passed around the event schedule for members to sign up to work. She shared the successes that have been had by the Coalition in the past events and encouraged all to take part in working a booth. Pizza boxes are still being work on; the verbiage is done, now it is a matter of getting quote and final approval for locations.
- B) L Q. Lincoln shared that J. Kroneck had been approached by Howard City Police Department with an opportunity for awareness. Howard City will be purchasing a new police cruiser. They said we could have the back panel with a decal of Drug Free Montcalm and our website on it for \$1000. There was some discussion regarding the cost, the fact that this cruiser would be in the rural areas of the county where billboards would never be seen. It would be in all parades in the Howard City area, and would give people an opportunity to see that we are collaborating with the Police Department. After much discussion it was decided that we should partner with the Howard City Police Department, but be open to other Police Departments as well. P. Spittka made a **motion, support by N. Sower** to spend \$1000 to have a decal made for the Howard City Police Department’s new police cruiser. **Motion Carried.**

VI) Website Update –

- A) P. Spittka shared that the website has had added items to it. He said he is learning about the new program also, and the things we will be able to do with it to enhance what we want people to see about us. He said he had been working on a partner/sponsor portion and asked who should be added. Suggestions were United Way, United Lifestyles and J & H Family Stores. P. Warmington clarified that sponsors are who give money or in-kind, all others should be listed as partners.
- B) It was also noted that the MCPUD website should also include a link to the newly created DFMC (Drug Free Montcalm Coalition) website: DFMC.info

VII) Community Commitment – Goal 2

- A) L Q. Lincoln reported that there were no new Community Commitments.

VIII) Limit Access – Goal 3

- A) T. Reeves reported that the chairperson has sent out the minutes of the last meeting as well as an invitation for businesses to be part of a panel to review LCC laws and rules.
- B) J. Kroneck reported that tobacco compliance checks have been done and we have had a 13.4% sale rate. Some questioned “what makes a person sell? And what should/ could we do about it?” There are multi causes for why someone sells, but

it was suggested from the group to continue to post the “good and the bad” in newspapers as well as on the website.

- C) J. Kroneck communicated that he had sent in his application to be part of the review team for the LCC rules, and T. Reeves shared his interest in doing so.
- D) SB331 passed the Senate and went to the House. This bill would reduce the tax on spirits for off-premise sales. J. Kroneck was able to testify regarding this issue. He spoke about how lowering the price of alcohol has been shown to increase youth access to alcohol, and it also ends up subsidizing the alcohol industry. The cost of alcohol abuses should not be shouldered by the tax payers, and when schools are having to make cuts, there is not sensible reason to give tax breaks to the alcohol industry. This bill is headed for the House floor. N. Sower suggested letters to the editor to connect the dots showing the money we (as tax payers) pay to for treatment of alcohol abuses and reducing the tax for the alcohol industry. Also showing how the schools are losing funding while \$14 mil goes back into the pockets of the alcohol industry. T. Reeves also said that there was possible legislation regarding allowing liquor sales at colleges. M. Mann said she would look into this further.

IX) Fun & Healthy Activities – Goal 4

- A) L Q. Lincoln shared that the 4-H group that we approved for a youth grant agreed to all stipulations that we gave: use our banner, police the environment to make sure those attending are not going outside the event to gain access to tobacco or alcohol, and the D.J. will use appropriate songs and verbiage.
- B) L Q. Lincoln shared that a youth grant application has been received. Great Start Collaborative is applying for assistance with their Early Childhood Conference. The application states that they would like to offer scholarships for families to be able to attend the event which costs \$10 per person. J. Worden made a **motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by J. Cordray** to grant the funds to Great Start with the recommendation that they use the funds to get more families to the conference. **Motion carried** with J. VanderLaan casting the only dissenting vote due to his feeling that this was not what the youth grant was meant for.
- C) L Q. Lincoln stated that there will be a Youth Summit meeting and she asked for input of what the coalition would like to see accomplished. Ideas consisted of a PSA or video with youth that could be used many different ways.

X) Positive Support Systems – Goal 5

- A) No reports

XI) Enforcement Emphasis – Goal 6

- A) M. Mann reported that she visited the Police Chief’s meeting and that she spoke to them about open communication, assistance with violations and citations. She shared what to do if a youth tries to sell. She also talked about possible trainings available. One concern was that the police do not see the MLCC as a true enforcement entity. Sheriff said there was very little problem which indicates lack of knowledge. She said she could pass along the information of our scanners to all applicants.

XII) Planning Action – Goal 7

- A) L Q. Lincoln shared some of the training items with the group. She and N. Sower will have a Powerpoint ready for the joint meeting in September.
- B) J. Kroneck went over the ROSC updates.

XIII) Next Meetings –

- MCPUD Meeting – August 26, 2011, 9:00 am United Lifestyles office in Greenville.
- TFM – July 12, 2011, 1:30pm – Jodie’s house
- DFM Governing Board Meeting – August 17, 2011, 9:00am Life Guidance office, Stanton

XIV) Meeting Next Steps

1	LG will look into the police car advertisements
2	J. Kroneck will continue to work on the DFM website
3	L Q. Lincoln will send the info about MLCC review committee to T. Reeves
4	M. Mann will look into legislation regarding colleges further
5	L Q. Lincoln will inform youth grant applicant of their approval
6	L Q. Lincoln and N. Sower will put together presentation for the joint meeting
7	L Q. Lincoln will put together a request to see if Friday meetings still work