

Vermont Drug and Alcohol Coalition

Mission Statement: *The Vermont Drug and Alcohol Coalition exists to continually improve access to quality prevention, intervention, treatment, enforcement and recovery services and programs for all Vermonters.*

October 27, 2010 Minutes

Present: David O'Brien, Christine Peterson, Kim Martin, Pat Martin, Joan Lenas, Patty McCarthy

Note--- new call in phone number----(800) 747-5150 code 2296103

Action Steps:

- Kim will contact Mark Ames regarding treasurer position
- Christine will write concept paper draft with three key areas of concern for next month
- Patty will send VDAC's documents on alcohol taxation to Christine
- Joan will check on date of Blue Ribbon Commission's presentation on all tax structures
- Patty will help to bring family that has been affected by addiction to legislator breakfast
- David will contact Ryan Simpson regarding forum notes

Review and approve minutes from August and September, 2010 meetings: August's minutes were reviewed. Joan moves to approve and Pat seconds to accept minutes as written. The September retreat minutes were also reviewed and accepted as written by Board.

Treasurer's report: Kim reported that there is \$1,646.39 in budget, \$170.00 in membership fees were added since July. Patty moves to accept financial report, Christine seconds. Board discussed whether treasurer needed to report out financial account at meetings. Kim will check in with Mark regarding his intention to stay active or not in VDAC.

Membership report: Membership renewal notices were sent out last November and December and then again in mid May of 2010. Some members renewed in May and others last winter. Board decided that if any new membership fees come in after January 1st, the dues will be prorated and the fee will be just \$25.00 for six months. This will allow everyone to be on the same fiscal year schedule, July 1-June 30th. In January, Kim will ask the six members who renewed last January to pay their dues (\$25.00) for the next six months.

Updates from Last Month: Board reviewed next steps from retreat. The three priorities for the upcoming session that VDAC will address are; maintaining the minimum legal drinking age, alcohol taxation, and funding. We discussed a concept paper about alcohol tax as a whole, with key points and what it should fund. Patty reminded us that VDAC has information already written on this, she will send to Christine. Concept paper should include all members listed somewhere on page with mission statement. Christine will write up a draft and bring to the next meeting. Joan suggested four or five sentence paragraph for each initiative and how they tie together. Patty will help format the document to make it eye catching. Christine will use Michael Nerney and Steve Waldo's information about the cost to society, highest cost is in corrections and addiction. Christine will also send mission statement to members for vote of approval.

Board discussed inviting Kesha Ram, Burlington Representative to come to meeting. Joan stated that it is easier to stop something before it is introduced.

Next steps included discussion about legislative breakfasts. Washington County, Bennington Southshire Partnership and Franklin County are planning on having a breakfast. Board talked about how to make these successful by inviting people on committees from your area, providing statistics, hand outs, and a lot of dialogue time. Speaker of the House will be picked on December 4th.

Patty suggested giving member coalitions VDAC's concept paper to put on their websites when completed. She also suggested that VDAC be available to accompany advocates to the Statehouse when they come to Montpelier. This would be on our website.

Next meeting: December 1st 12:30 - 2:30pm at the Department of Liquor Control, Montpelier

January 27, 2011- Location TBA

February 24

March 24

April 19th -Awareness Day at the State House

May 26

June 23

SAVE THE DATE- April 19th, 2011- Awareness Day at the State House

Adjourned 2:20

Respectfully submitted: Kim Martin