



(established in 1988)

102 W. MARKET STREET, SUITE 205
BLUFFTON, IN 46714

CITIZENS AGAINST DRUG ABUSE

May 14, 2015

4-H Community Building

In attendance: MEMBERS: Vicki Bell (Boys and Girls Club), Betsy Collier (Council on Aging – WOW), Carl Cook (Helping Hands), Angie Dial (Family Centered Service – Teen Court), Alicia Hill (House of Hope NEI), Molly Hoag, (Wells County Extension Service), Deane' Holderman (Wells County DCS), Chief Nathan Huss (Bluffton Police Department), Officer Brian McClish (Ossian Police Department), Stacy Morrison (Bluffton High School), Roger Sherer (Purdue Extension); and GUESTS: Dr. Gene Bell (First Reformed Church), Joan Moon (concerned citizen / nurse / midwife)

Welcome, Introduction and Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 11:32 by President Molly Hoag; introductions took place.

Presentation of Minutes: Minutes of March 12, 2015 and April 9, 2015 were presented to the board. A motion was made (Chief Nathan Huss) and seconded (Officer Brian McClish) for the minutes to be approved as written; passed unanimously.

Grant Program Reports: No reports were presented.

New Members: Carl Cook has met the attendance requirement for new members. A motion was made (Betsy Collier) and seconded (Stacy Morrison) to add Carl to the CADA membership; passed unanimously.

Treasurer' Report: Treasurer Stacy Morrison reported a \$60.84 balance in the CADA checking account. The Wells County Auditor report shows \$900 posted to the Drug-Free Fund in March and \$300 posted in April.

Unfinished Business: The Freedom Riders (Chapter 7) will be holding the 2nd Annual Tye King Ride to Remember on Saturday, June 27, 2015. All proceeds will be donated to D.A.R.E. of Wells County. Registration will begin at 10:30 am and the ride starts at 12:00 pm in the City Parking Lots (Washington and Main Streets). The cost is \$10 per bike and \$5 per passenger. A meal will be held at 4:00 pm (good will donation). There will also be a raffle, DJ, kids games, biker games and vendors. Event t-shirts are also available. Questions can be referred to John (260-251-9539) or Charles (765-578-0864). A copy of the flyer will be emailed to CADA members; please post and share this information.

CADA has been invited to participate in this event. After a brief discussion, it was decided to donate water. Eight cases of water were pledged by various agencies represented at the meeting. Angie Dial will create a label for the water bottle to include the CADA logo and contact information; the students assigned to SOS (Students On Suspension) can attach the labels as community service after their school assignments are complete. The water can be dropped off at Family Centered Services (123 S. Marion Street) by Wednesday, May 20, 2015.

Education Committee update: Molly Hoag heard a presentation by a speaker with “The Bitter Pill” campaign during a recent training session at Purdue. After the presentation, she spoke with the presenter (Michelle Sybesma) who explained that speaker services are provided free through the Attorney General’s Office. Michelle suggested inviting a speaker named Rigo (a recovering addict from the Northern Indiana area) in combination with a panel discussion. Michelle is also willing to come and talk about drug trends. Molly will get more information and bring bios for Rigo and Michelle to the June meeting. A brief discussion took place on when (summer or fall) and where (4-H park, schools, etc) but no decisions were made at this time. Stacy Morrison suggested scheduling the event in the fall so that it can be promoted during announcements, back to school events, and registration.

Michelle Sybesma was impressed to learn about the Wells County Substance Use Protocol Manual. She advised Molly that it doesn’t matter what you do as long as you do something; just pick something and go with it. Molly shared the encouraging message that you don’t have to do everything but can still make a difference by doing something.

Community Comprehensive Plan Committee update: Chief Nathan Huss reported that the committee is making progress and hopes to have a draft of the plan by August or September for the October 31, 2015 deadline. The committee is working towards consolidating goals in order to make data collection easier for the agencies that report yearly statistics (preferably using data that is already being tracked) used in the CCP. Anyone is welcome to participate in the process.

New Business: Steve Higgins (Boy Scouts of America) and John Cole (The Connecting Center and Park UB Church) have been added to the email list. They were both unable to attend the meeting today but have expressed an interest in attending a meeting in the future.

Community Concerns/Trends: Joan Moon shared the story of her grandson who was addicted to opiates from the age of 18 through age 26. They have found success (and hope) with Vivitrol (more information can be found at vivitrol.com); he has now been clean for 3 months. Joan reported that the user has to initially be off of opiates for 14 days before starting treatment. A shot is administered once/month for a recommended period of 2 years for best results. The shot can be administered by a doctor and a treatment center is not required. Vivitrol works by filling the receptors in the brain, blocking the pleasurable feeling associated with opiate use.

Joan also recommended the book “Dreamland” by Sam Quinones (more information can be found at samquinones.com). The book tells the evolution of America’s opiate epidemic over the past 15 years.

Alicia Hill shared that addictions are a big concern. House of Hope is working on targeting the whole person and focusing on the neurochemistry in the brain. She noted that teens are savvy and they are working on teaching parents what to watch for on social media and asking families to designate time to shut down devices. House of Hope is providing a program on gaming this week to bring awareness to how addiction to devices affects the brain.

Chief Nathan Huss reported that Governor Mike Pence signed Senate Bill 6 making it illegal to possess, purchase, sell, or use powdered alcohol in Indiana.

Joan Moon recalled stopping at a convenience store recently where various paraphernalia items were for sale at the cash register. A sign noted “for tobacco use only”. A discussion took place as to how someone could find it morally acceptable to sell such items. Similar conversations have taken place in

the past with merchants who sell such things; it was clear that it didn't matter if there was money to be made.

Dr. Gene Bell reported that weekly Narcotics Anonymous (NA) meetings are now being held at the First Reformed Church on Thursday evenings from 7:00-8:00. Please pass the word!

Molly Hoag suggested that we invite a representative from Celebrate Recovery to an upcoming CADA meeting to learn more. It was noted that Celebrate Recovery is open to everyone and addresses all addictions (not just drugs and alcohol).

Chief Nathan Huss reported that heroin is continuing to replace meth as drug of choice in the community. It's easy to get and cheaper than manufacturing meth.

Deane' Holderman shared that Department of Child Services in Wells County is currently conducting over 200 drug tests each month (last year ran around 70 tests per month). Of those tests, there is over a 40% positive outcome for some type of drug. She noted that they are doing more screenings because they are experiencing more concerns that justify a screen; with that, comes additional follow up screenings.

Membership Sharing: Molly shared a letter written by a drug addicted high school student. A copy of the letter will be emailed to CADA members.

Greg Werich reported (via email) that the Probation Department staff attended the annual PO Meetings in Indianapolis this month; there were several sessions on identification, intervention and treatment of substance abuse. Collectively they received 45 hours of continuing education on the topics.

Jermaine Galloway (Tall Cop Says Stop) is scheduled back in the area on Monday, August 17, 2015 from 8:30-3:00. The cost is \$40 per participant (if more than 3 people from an organization attend, the cost is reduced to \$35 per participant). His presentation last year was partially funded by the Regional Advisory Board grant and was very well received. Mark your calendars!

April was Child Abuse Prevention month . . . Thanks to all who displayed signs and pinwheels! Please return any signs to DCS for use next year.

Adjournment: A motion was made (Carl Cook) and seconded (Betsy Collier) to adjourn at 12:35 pm; passed unanimously.

Next meeting: Thursday, June 11, 2015 at 11:30 am at the 4-H Community Building.

Submitted by: Angie Dial