

**Sampson County Meth Taskforce and
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
August 19, 2009**

The Sampson County Meth Taskforce met on August 19, 2009 at the Human Services Building Upstairs Conference Room. Chair, J.W. Simmons, called the meeting to order at 8:30 am with an invocation by David Chestnutt.

Present: J.W. Simmons; Sarah Bradshaw; Robin Henderson; ; David Chestnutt; Pat Green; Jeff Shipp; Jay Tilley; Renee' White; Joni Faye Fetterman; Mary Margaret Hobbs; Ken Jones; Clay Doxey; Gary Connolly; Jason Miller; and Janet Rosenberger.

Minutes from the July 15, 2009 meeting were approved with a motion from Jeff Shipp, seconded by David Chestnutt.

Treasurer's report was given by Pat Green noting that we now have a balance of \$4,850 in our account. A check was written to the US Treasury for the 501-C application fee of \$750.

OLD BUSINESS

Public Information Awareness & Marketing:

As follow-up from the last MTF Board of Directors meeting, JW was asked to contact the Montana Project reps. He spoke to the Executive Director and found that their project has been replicated in seven (7) states. Their efforts have afforded 63% reduction in Meth use. The cost to adopt the Montana Meth Project for use would be very expensive.

JW thanked Jason Miller for all his assistance on updating the website as needed. Jason will be looking at the site to see what kind of overhaul we can do to it. Sarah reminded the group that we've budgeted for website maintenance. This will be the most critical thing we do since it's so accessible to the public.

JW was asked to contact WCLN about paid advertising with them. He reported that Robert Stroud does a Saturday evening show that could reach the demographic we're trying to get to. The cost for three or four, 60-second spots during his show is \$100 per month. It was mentioned that we need to also identify South River Electric Membership Corporation within our ads due to their support through our recent acquired grant. JW had the idea of targeting specific youth both male and female to do these 60-second spots. Ken Jones added that we could identify school clubs that speak out and SADD was mentioned as such a group. These groups could be bylined with the Meth Task Force, Star Telephone and SREMC. Pat Green agreed that it's a great idea to use someone from our area since people can be touched more through their peers.

Discussion was held regarding these spots being pre-recorded, edited and tweaked. Additionally, Meth shouldn't be the only drug mentioned since they come in bundles: Meth, cocaine & marijuana. It was suggested that the youth possibly develop the script for the ads. A recommendation was made by Jeff Shipp to spend \$300 and run three months of 30-second spots on WCLN. This was seconded by Mary Margaret Hobbs with total support by the Meth Task Force. JW stated that we can possibly begin the spots in September after they're formulated. David Chestnutt added that the Christian radio station 107.3 will also promote anything for free.

Other Discussion: Ken Jones introduced Clay Doxey to the Board stating that she has a background in substance abuse counseling. She will be a new member of the Task Force replacing Lillian Wells who is no longer with Eastpointe. Sarah Bradshaw informed the group that the Meth Task Force Board of Directors has been meeting monthly in order to establish more structure to the TF since our Incorporation.

Robin Henderson handed out the new Hispanic newspaper *El Mercado Latino* which was developed by her husband and David Chestnutt's wife. It included an article about the Meth Task Force and their recent grant award. JW thanked Robin for being instrumental in getting this information into the publication. Ken Jones stated that we could add a link to "Babel Fish" to the MTF website which would turn it into Spanish.

NEW BUSINESS

Referral Card Handout: Robin shared an example of a type of informational handout card for the group to review. Discussion was held about what type of information to include on the cards. It was mentioned that “less is more”. We’d welcome any feedback. Families are usually the ones calling for assistance, so anything that would be beneficial to them getting information needed during their crisis. Some suggestions made for what should be included on these cards was the website info, which would also link them to resources, as well as Eastpointe’s contact information. Gary Connolly stated he wouldn’t mind his contact information being included.

Harrell’s Community Meeting September 15th: It was suggested that the same lineup of speakers as the Plainview Community meeting be used in Harrells. JW stated that he’ll get with David Chestnutt to create an agenda and send it out for comments or ideas. We’ll get the flyers out as soon as possible to get those distributed when we get the location information. It was recommended that the information be given the WCLN as well as placed in *El Mercado Latino*.

Other Discussion: Robin Henderson informed the group about the Sampson County Recovery Day Celebration being held on Friday, September 18th from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at the City Market in Clinton. They’ll be offering health screenings and drug & alcohol screenings. There will hopefully be information from Partnership for Children about car seat safety, a blood drive with the hospital, a presentation from the Sheriff’s Dept and lots of information about drugs, alcohol and recovery.

JW checked on the Task Force using the Montana Meth slogan ***Not Even Once*** and found that the cost would be too much. There were several suggestions for us to use: ***Let Us Save One; Helping People Overcome, Not Just Survive*** or another variation, ***Overcoming, Not Just Surviving***. Clay Doxey made a suggestion that we do a contest for kids and let them come up with the slogan.

The full Meth Task Force meeting adjourned at 9:45 am.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Executive Session was called to order at 10:00 am. Board of Directors present were J.W. Simmons; Robin Henderson; David Chestnutt; Pat Green; Jeff Shipp; Jay Tilley; Renee’ White; Joni Faye Fetterman; Mary Margaret Hobbs; and Janet Rosenberger.

The new Board of Directors notebooks were distributed to those present.

Nominating Committee Report: Discussion was held updating the Board about the Nominating Committee meeting they had on August 19th. Renee’, Jeff, Joni Fay and Sarah discussed the nomination for the vacant seat left by Amber Cava. The Committee unanimously nominated David Kidd for Board membership. Robin Henderson made a motion to accept this nomination which David Chestnutt seconded with complete approval by the Board. At that meeting, it was also decided that future vacancies will be filled with recommendations by the Committee.

Fundraising efforts were mentioned. Renee stated that she has searched for some unique ideas and suggested a Mystery Dinner Theatre. Pat Green remarked that this type of fundraiser is already being done in the community. Pat recommended that, for now, we follow grants and civic group donations. The Rotary Club is considering changing the way they contribute funds, possibly giving more to fewer groups (as opposed to less funding to more groups). David advised that, with 501-C status, we need to keep all receipts in order to get back taxes that have been paid during the year.

Pat informed the group that there was a recent article in the newspaper about a home that was a past Meth house that a couple had purchased which ended up being foreclosed. Since HASMET can’t release any information, Pat is going to follow-up with the Real Estate Commission to see what’s in place about disclosure.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 with a motion from Pat, seconded by Mary Margaret.