

Substance Abuse Coalition

January 5, 2016

Attending: Mike Butler, Jessica Gardner, Susan Walko, LeeAnn Jasset, Elizabeth Martin, Chief Spillane, Janet Whelton, Amy Thomas, Chief D'Entremont, Susan Fay, Flo???

Mike opened the meeting at 6 p.m.

Narcan administrations were average for the last quarter of 2015: 8 doses administered, 3 in parking lots, 5 in residences. There were no fatalities in this quarter. There were 4 fatalities for 2015 in total.

Jessica gave a "community update." Jessica visited all the "pouring" establishments in Dedham to promote the "Observe, don't over-serve" campaign. The DA held a kick-off event for this state-wide campaign at Patriot Place. Seven Dedham establishments attended. One idea discussed was cab service available at Patriot Place, perhaps an idea for Legacy Place.

For calendar planning, Jessica mentioned potential surveying that would assist in grant applications. Surveying every 6 months ideal.

Community objectives discussed were to decrease stigma around opioid addiction and to increase the recovery groups/communities.

Janet suggested holding another forum, similar to the one held by Rep. McMurtry. Collaborating with other towns would increase attendance. Different types of presentations were discussed with the goal of reaching a broader target audience. The new film "If only" was suggested as an important film for community members to see. Sue Walko suggested using other town gatherings such as town meeting and the warrant review meeting to promote the coalition and sponsored events. Park and Rec events would also work well. The Dedham Junior Woman's Club craft fair in November would be another good venue to distribute promotional materials.

It was determined to move forward with holding an event in March with a panel discussion and viewing of the "If only" movie.

Canton's Health department holds an annual health fair that is an excellent model for Dedham to consider copying.

Legislation advocacy was discussed. Janet has been attending MOAR meetings learning about new legislation. The Governor has begun a "no more stigma" campaign coordinated by BSAS. There is a video on Facebook for this campaign that might play well on Dedham TV. This campaign also has banners and posters available that could be posted around town. Jessica reported on a program for health care providers called SBIRT - a screening tool for adolescent opioid abuse. Susan Walko reported that the School Dept is currently working on a policy around having Narcan in school nurses' offices. There was some discussion about what

providers are currently doing to screen for opioid abuse, and their knowledge of addiction and recovery.