

Tobacco-Free Collier Partnership Meeting  
September 23, 2009 4:30-5:30pm  
MINUTES

Present: Rachel Kleist, Jennifer Smith, Netty Artimez, Kaylee Lopez, Natalie Artimez, Jennifer Lofy, Cathy Cleary, Brian Torres, Micharon Matthews, Bryce Dahilo, Debra Walters, John Gulley, Eric Martinez, Tessa Millikan, Becky Muerman, Kristen Doughty, Heather McDougall, D. Richardson, Kurt Goerke, Joe Kemper, Michelle Murphy, Christie Bickelman, Teresa Ferrari, Kaleigh Rodden, Stacy Revay, Logan Mohring, Mary Ann Guerra, Michael DePante, Cher Conyston, Marilyn Leeds, Jennifer Harris, and Sue Buntick.

Rachel Kleist opened the meeting by welcoming all in attendance to Collier's first tobacco-free partnership meeting.

Brief introductions were made by all in attendance by stating name, agency, and reason or interest in coming to meeting. Answers ranged from interest in tobacco-free businesses, tobacco prevention among youth, personal tobacco-tragedy stories, and networking to build a safer community in Collier.

Jennifer Smith gave a brief history on the Tobacco Control Program at the CCHD and talked about the success of SWAT and STRIKE clubs as well. She did a timeline of events that started with Florida suing the tobacco industry and led up to our current 7 SWAT & STRIKE clubs.

Rachel Kleist spoke about Collier's grant and the need to implement three policies in three years. The three different policies: policy to eliminate candy flavored tobacco, policy to ban tobacco sponsorship of community events, and policy for tobacco-free grounds (hospitals & colleges). Brief talk on the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act that President Obama signed allowing the FDA to regulate all tobacco products and eliminate candy flavored cigarettes and small cigars from store shelves September 22, 2009. Act also prohibited **brand** sponsorship of sports & entertainment events, however still allowed "U.S. Smokeless Tobacco" to sponsor. NCH representative Michelle Murphy stated all NCH campuses would be going tobacco-free November 19<sup>th</sup> for the Great American Smoke Out, and David Lawrence representative Mary Ann Guerra stated DLC is going completely tobacco-free by January 1<sup>st</sup>. PRMC representative Michael DePante stated their intention to go tobacco-free as well by November 19<sup>th</sup>. All agencies are setting the tone for other businesses and colleges alike to go tobacco-free campus. Spoke about intending to follow Charlotte County Edison State College campuses lead and go tobacco-free as well. Spoke briefly about the Copenhagen Rodeo that was present at Germain Arena and other tobacco sponsorship of events that happen in and around our community.

Rachel Kleist expressed the need for three subcommittees to reflect the three different policies and had room split into three sections, asking each member to split into which policy they would be more interested or passionate about.

Jennifer Smith led the largest subcommittee which was policy for tobacco-free grounds (colleges & hospitals). Stacy Revay led the policy to prohibit tobacco sponsorship of events, and Rachel Kleist led policy to eliminate candy-flavored tobacco. Each member re-signed in to their specific subcommittee and each subcommittee leader spoke for about ten minutes on the policy.

Jennifer Smith conducted “Tobacco 101” training on how to file a complaint for illegal product placement in Collier County. A flyer showing pictures of correct and incorrect product placement was given to each member with the ordinance and phone number provided to file a complaint. Jennifer also explained a brief history of how this ordinance was passed.

Rachel Kleist wrapped up the meeting by providing important dates. Kaleigh Rodden from the American Heart Association also informed the group of the Heart Walk taking place in November. A need for a logo and Chair and Vice Chair positions was expressed as well.

Kurt Goerke talked about the history of the Tobacco-Free Partnership in the past and his personal experience being a member on the partnership over the years. He gave some uplifting and encouraging words that set the tone of the partnership.

Next quarterly partnership meeting was announced for Wednesday, December 9, 2009 at 4:30pm.