

Posted 12/14/2021  
AS

Vernon ROCKS Coalition  
November 17, 2021  
2:15pm, virtual

Draft Minutes

11/17/2021

1. Welcome
2. Introductions
  - a. Attendants: Holly Hansen, Robin Kohler, Cassie Schend, Michelle Hill, Dustin Yager, Alessia Campanaro, Kimberly McTighe, Shakir Leacock, Steven Jackson, Hilary Norcia, SRO Allison Lawrence, Cynthia Zingler
3. Review of 10/20/21 minutes
  - a. Robin Kohler motions to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by Cassie Schend, approved by the coalition.
4. Real Talk Updates
  - a. Shared a vaping prevention poster designed by one of the Real Talk members, Skylin to be posted throughout the school.
  - b. Saher was awarded the 2021 Village's Girl Within Young Woman of the year and was featured in The Village's 2021 Annual Report.
  - c. Membership
    - i. Recruitment – More recruitment flyers can be placed on TVs within Rockville High School to encourage membership.
    - ii. Leadership roles are still accepting applications for the five Real Talk Leadership roles
5. Holiday Billboard Options
  - a. Billboard will be up from December 6th until January 3<sup>rd</sup>
  - b. Coalition picked the "Start the new year off right", left-justified version, and the "be safe" with the removal of the comma before "be safe".
6. Coalition updates
  - a. DEA Takeback- 70+ pounds were collected during the event.
  - b. Trunk or Treat- Cassie and Holly attended Trunk or Treat where 450 goodie bags were handed out to Vernon youth. The bags included a sticker that stated a Vernon social norm statistic and included candy and a prevention activity placemat.
  - c. Vernon Health and Wellness Committee Newsletter- Holly and Cassie have been attending the Vernon Health and Wellness Committee. At the last meeting, the coalition

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shared the survey data and have taken a part in the newsletter by sharing an infographic and providing healthy alternatives to substance use. The newsletter is sent to a listserv that goes to both staff and families.

7. Upcoming Events

- a. Vernon Public Hearing- Planning and Zoning Committee is held a public hearing on November 4th to define address and permit cannabis retailers in certain zones. The current wording allows for a cannabis retailer to be within 500 feet of a public school. The vote did not occur, and the public hearing was extended to November 18<sup>th</sup> and non-paid staff are encouraged to attend and voice concerns on the distance in regard to youth perception of harm.
- b. BPS "Catch Addiction Early" Walk/Run- Will occur November 20<sup>th</sup> from 10-12. Treatment providers will be in attendance to encourage the message that "recovery and treatment is possible"

8. MVPP Update

- a. Shakir is the new Program Coordinator for the Change Collaborative of Manchester.
- b. Manchester will begin recruitment for the coalition.

9. Holiday Prevention Awareness Ideas?

- a. Package store bags for Impaired Driving prevention month
- b. Social media posts
- c. Brainstorming
  - i. Partnership for Vernon Toy for Tots- providing messaging that can be disseminated
  - ii. Cornerstone Breakfast with Santa in partnership with Rotary club is being held on December 11<sup>th</sup>
  - iii. Social Services Gift Card collection for teens 12+
  - iv. December 4<sup>th</sup> Is Vernon's Arctic Splash

10. Other Announcements

- a. Compliance checks will be planned in Spring
- b. Circle of Mom's is having an open house tonight, November 17.

11. Next Meeting: December 15<sup>th</sup>