

**LAWRENCE ALCOHOL AND DRUG ALLIANCE**  
**MINUTES**  
**February 24, 2015**  
**5:00 P.M.**  
**Lawrence Municipal Building**

**Present:** Ann DeGennaro, Superintendent Representative  
Linda Townsend, Project Graduation  
Susan Stanley, Rider University  
Melody Powell, PEI Kids  
Sue Varga, Community Representative  
Carol Chamberlain, Chairperson  
Brian Helmuth, Homefront, Lawrence Community Center  
Michael Arons, Princeton Elks Lodge #2129

**Absent:** Tim Drew, Lawrence Township Police Department  
Christine Lee, Lawrence Recreation Department  
Kelly Nitti, Camp Fire Boys and Girls

**A. Introductions**

Introductions were made to welcome new attendees including Brian Helmuth, Mike Arons and Linda Townsend.

**B. Review of Minutes**

The minutes of the December 2, 2014 meeting were reviewed and approved.

**C. Grant Activity Reports**

LMTI – The group focused on teen dating and violence in February. Ann DeGennaro explained she is considering re-focusing the group to be more inclusive. Currently the LMTI students who have been to camp have not integrated themselves and the principals of LMTI with other students. She is considering re-directing the program for the upcoming year.

Camp Fire Boys & Girls – No report.

PEI Kids – Melody reported thirteen classes are now being scheduled at Lawrence Intermediate School for the upcoming month.

Project Graduation – Linda Townsend reported that Project Graduation is scheduled for June 15, 2015. At this time, fundraisers are being planned including Mr. LHS. The monthly parent meetings are ongoing and the committee continues to look for parent volunteers to help with planning the event and working the night of Project Graduation.

Community Awareness – Susan Stanley reported there will be a symposium on the topic of marijuana conducted at Rider University on May 5, 2015 from 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. The program is being conducted in conjunction with the Prevention Coalition of Mercer County.

A health fair will be conducted for Rider students on March 3, 2015 at the Daly Dining Center. The LADA will be participating with information about underage drinking. The health fair will take place from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Coordinator Report – The 2015-2016 grant application has been submitted to the county. The funding amount is expected to be the same as 2014-2015. Since the strategic plan submitted last year is a five-year plan, the programs will continue to focus on the priority area of underage drinking.

#### **D. Old Business**

Calendar of Events – Carol Chamberlain reminded everyone to submit upcoming events to her for inclusion on the LADA Calendar of Events. These are published on the township website.

Sticker Shock – Carol Chamberlain reported the grant includes implementation of the Sticker Shock program. Volunteer students are needed to implement the program.

Parents Who Host Lose the Most – This is another program to be completed within the grant. Carol Chamberlain is requesting ideas of how to reach parents with this program.

#### **E. New Business**

Municipal Alliance Capacity Assessment Tool – Tabled until next meeting.

Michael Arons, Princeton Elks Lodge #2129 provided information about the Elks role in drug and alcohol prevention education. He shared information about the annual teen conference which was held the first week in February in Long Branch, New Jersey. The LADA members requested additional information to consider for next year's conference.

Mr. Arons also brought literature on a variety of drug and alcohol topics. Materials were available for LADA members to take and distribute.

Mr. Arons also presented the LADA Chairperson with a mascot elk sharing the drug and alcohol prevention message from the Elks.

It was recognized that Mr. Arons was selected the Mercer County Alliance Volunteer of the Year in January 2015.

**F. Next Meeting Date**

The next LADA meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 24, 2015.

**G. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Chamberlain  
Chairperson