

- 1. Welcome
- 2. Introductions
- Draft Minutes

 12/15/2021

 Plcome

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 a. Attendants: Holly Hansen, Robin Kohler, Cassie Schend, Michelle Hill, Hilary Norces, Cynthia Zingler, Kimberly McTighe
- 3. Review of 11/17/21 minutes
 - a. Kimberly McTighe motions to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by Cassie Schend, approved by the coalition.
- 4. Real Talk Updates
 - a. Holiday Liquor Stores Bags
 - i. Peer advocates and Real Talk teamed up to decorate package store bags with holiday-themed prevention messaging to encourage safe drinking practices.
 - ii. Two alcohol retailers participated donating 500 bags for the prevention initiative
 - iii. Will be in The Vernon Voice upcoming edition
- 5. Vaping
 - a. Some students across the United States have been vaping fentanyl, schools in Norwalk have reported overdoses
 - b. The RHS SRO will be presenting in health classes, and a local newsletter that parents receive included information on how to talk to your children about fentanyl and vaping
 - c. Ellington Youth Services has a SMART recovery group that can be used for vaping recovery, it has been shared with support staff at RHS.
- 6. Coalition updates
 - a. Holiday Billboard
 - i. The billboard is up until January 3rd
 - b. Holiday Resources for local events
 - i. Cornerstone held a pancake breakfast in partnership with the Vernon Rotary Club. The coalition created and disseminated a mental health resource for this event.

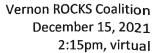




- ii. Social services will be disseminating another resource Vernon ROCKS created to help teens cope with mental health.
- c. Public Hearing for Cannabis retailers
 - i. The initial proposal for cannabis retailers was to allow them within 500 feet of a school. After two public hearings, attended by multiple coalition members the proposal was changed to 3,000 feet from a school.
- d. CADCA Leadership Forum
 - CADCA will be held in-person with proof of vaccination. There are still safety concerns for this conference, so we are holding off on opening this up to the entire coalition to ensure everyone's safety.
 - ii. It is held the first week of February.
 - iii. Cassie and Holly will be presenting at the forum, we will be doing focus groups, with one being held on 12/16. Invitation to attend was offered at the meeting.

7. General Ideas for 2022

- a. May NPW
- b. Compliance checks in the spring
- c. Volleyball Lock-In is being held on March 11th, 2022
- d. MVPP
 - i. Strategies for dealing with grief to prevent turning to drugs or alcohol
- e. Recruitment for Botvin Life Skills
 - i. Referrals from JRB
- f. Trainings for Coalition
 - i. SBIRT
- g. Recruitment
 - i. Faith-based
 - ii. Parents
 - iii. Civic groups
 - iv. Businesses
- 8. Other Announcements





- a. A past Real Talk member, Urwa, was featured in the Hartford Courant for publishing a book entitled "Steering Towards Change: Women Politicians Challenging Patriarchy, Class and Power in Pakistan" and has started her own non-profit.
- b. Vernon ROCKS Coalition partnered with an existing coalition group, Become Part of the Solution, in November. The event focused on recovery support and raised money to get people into recovery.
- 9. Next Meeting: January 19th