

Allegheny County Coalition for Recovery
Public Awareness Committee Meeting Minutes
June 6, 2006

Present: Wes Sowers, Craig Dorin, Christopher Terry, Bobbi Donovan, Chris Weis, Lettie Gabriel; and Lola Zographos

- May 5 minutes were approved.
- The purpose of the “Un-dependence Day event is **“To get people to look at behavioral health issues in a different way.”**
- A reminder that the pledge and the petition are two different issues, to be dealt with separately.
- It still has not been determined whether we will be approved to use the new Schenley Plaza/ Green Space.
- Bobbi drafted a design for the button, the design was approved. It was suggested someone should contact A. G. Trumbell to have the buttons made. Craig will check on the cost and place the order. Craig will also place the orders for the t-shirts and bookmarks. Craig will also check into reserving tables for the event.
- The design for the button, bookmark, and t-shirt are all similar.
- It was also suggested we have peach colored balloons with “Take the Pledge” printed on them. (Bobbi will check on a helium tank.)
- Craig will also contact Kathy Hinkling regarding providing music for the event. (We also need to check for the availability of power.)
- There was discussion about food. Do we want to provide food? It was also suggested we see if any vendors with a cart (such as a hot dog stand) would want to set up near the event for anyone who would like to purchase food; and we could provide tickets to people to get a free hot dog. We could provide water and pop to everyone.
- We could use money in the current fiscal budget to purchase t-shirts, etc. We need to spend all the money in the current budget.
- There was discussion about the wording, instead of using “mental health” we need to use the term “behavioral health”. Many drug and alcohol people don’t see themselves as having mental health issues.
- Do we want “Voters Registration” at the event. Possibly invite the League of Women Voters to register voters?
- Do we want to promote the petition for a longer term than the two weeks currently planned? If we have extra money available in the current budget we could pay people to solicit signatures the last two weeks of June. These individuals would need to have some training on the issues and how to approach people.

- Cable access program – Craig did tape a piece with Albert to be shown at a later date, prior to the event.
- Other issues raised:
 - Do we need an insurance rider?
 - Legality issues (Bobbi will check with Mike)
- Bobbi will draft the letter and the registration form for providers to register to participate in the event. Bobbi and Wes will check on a list of providers. Lola will send out the letters and receive registration responses.

- **Next meeting Wednesday, May 24, 2006 at 11:30 at PSAN office.**