

**Princeton Alcohol and Drug Alliance  
Regular Meeting by videoconference  
October 6, 2022  
APPROVED Minutes**

Open Meeting – Notice of this meeting was published on the municipal website.

Attendance:

- Susan Conlon (Princeton Public Library)
- Dave Errickson (Alliance Coordinator)
- Sara Gardiner (Mercer County Alliance – MCADA)
- Tracy Kindelsperger (Corner House staff)
- Riva Levy (Corner House staff)
- Courtney Navas (Alliance Chair)
- Sam Nelson (Corner House staff)
- Leighton Newlin (Princeton Council)
- Kennedy Peck (Corner House Student Board – Princeton High School)
- Michelle Simborski (Princeton High School)
- Jean Woodman (Corner House staff)
- Annie Zhao (Corner House Student Board – Princeton High School)

- I. Call to Order: Ptl. Courtney Navas called the meeting to order at 12:03 PM.
- II. Introductions: All present introduced themselves and their role.
- III. Introductions, elections, and welcome to guests
  - a. The Alliance welcomed Kennedy Peck and Annie Zhao, Corner House Student Board representatives. They attend Princeton High School.
  - b. The Alliance welcomed Sara Gardiner, Mercer County Alcohol & Drug Alliance representative.
- IV. Agenda – No changes were made to the distributed agenda.
- V. The minutes of the April 7, 2022 minutes were approved. Motion Michelle Simborski, second Riva Levy, approved by show of hands.
- VI. Alliance Coordinator – Dave Errickson outlined the history of the Princeton Alcohol & Drug Alliance, noting Princeton has a municipal department (Corner House) that acts on behalf of the town to coordinate alcohol and drug services. Dave read from the municipal resolution:
  - *PADA includes members from the municipality, community members, and stakeholders.*
  - *PADA seeks to increase awareness, reduce substance use and addiction in the greater Princeton community.*
  - *PADA aims to create a network of student leaders committed to remaining alcohol and drug free and an informed network of responsible adults supportive of their efforts.*
  - a. Dave noted Corner House coordinates many of the PADA’s outreach events, which have included community education, a biannual car-crash re-enactment prior to spring prom season, and, recently, the Mayor’s Wellness Campaign.

- b. Dave invited Sam Nelson to talk about the Lindsey Meyer Teen Institute, funded through the Governor's Council on Alcohol & Drug Abuse (GCADA). Sam accompanied 4 Outreach students to the Institute in August at Camp Mason in northwestern New Jersey. Usually Outreach students focus on study skills and planning for life after high school; the Institute allowed them to develop leadership skills and forge better relationships between students and teachers. Council Member Newlin asked how the Institute connected to PADA's mission of drug and alcohol awareness. Sam explained that Outreach students are typically underserved, so these programs help them see how they can develop skills in an environment away from substances. The Outreach Coordinators then reinforce those skills throughout the year. Council Member Newlin noted he encourages programs that educate students about the dangers of fentanyl.

VII. School Representatives:

- a. Princeton High School – Michelle Simborski described the e-online courses available to students on Drug-Free World.com (<https://www.drugfreeworld.org/course/>). Students who complete a course have a chance to win a \$25 gift card; the response has been very good. PHS has also arranged week-long access to a four-film iNDIEFLICKS series that address race and gender, social media, anxiety, and bullying. PHS students will see the films in class, and parents and community members will have access to the discussion questions. Information will be posted once the purchase has been completed.

Representatives from Princeton Day School, Stuart Country Day School, and the Hun School were not available today.

- VIII. Princeton Public Library – Susan Conlon highlighted two Kids Lit projects. The Children's Book Festival will be live on Hinds Plaza this Saturday, October 8 (<https://princetonlibrary.org/childrens-book-festival/>). Jazaams has partnered with the Library to sell books at the event. The Library will host a traveling exhibit in October titled "Telling a People's Story," a retrospective on Black children's stories (<https://princetonlibrary.org/services/spaces/exhibits/#telling-a-peoples-story>). Library staff were glad to see a full library yesterday when school was closed. Princeton University students will be available for tutoring soon. Middle schoolers and 9<sup>th</sup> graders are eligible to sign up for a workshop on civic engagement, to help them prepare for community service. The "Up All Night" event is scheduled for December 2.

- IX. Princeton University – No representative was available today.

- X. Princeton Council Liaison – Leighton Newlin reported he had a good meeting with Corner House staff last week about how Corner House is funded. He is working on being a better advocate for his boards and organizations.

- XI. Law Enforcement – Ptl. Courtney Navas

- a. Ptl. Navas reported on a Family Court referral for marijuana.
- b. The Police are excited to be hosting Trunk or Treat at 400 Witherspoon St on Thursday, October 27, 4:00 – 6:00 PM. Many Alliance members are sponsoring the event, including the Princeton Police, PFARS, Princeton Public Library, Corner House, and Princeton University. Additional sponsors and participants are welcome. Past sponsors noted this is a large event and advised purchasing about \$100 worth of treats so you don't run out.

XII. Corner House Student Programs

- a. Kennedy Peck reported that CHSB is talking about developing a presentation for middle schoolers on the mental health aspects. Annie Zhao noted CHSB was inspired by photos of posters on the subject.
- b. Riva Levy reported on the successful Leadership Retreat held at PU this summer to get the Growing Accepted as an Individual in America (GAIA), Teen Advisory Group (TAG), and Corner House Student Board (CHSB) started for the year.
  - GAIA develops and presents workshops on peace and acceptance to 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders.
  - TAG presents refusal skills workshops to 8<sup>th</sup> graders.
  - CHSB creates drug- and alcohol-free events for high school students. Riva reported the All-City Dodgeball tournament will be held on Friday, November 11. The students are developing other events and programs for the year. Leighton asked about the Princeton Charter School; Riva noted Leadership students present workshops there, and they have scheduled a faculty presentation as well.

XIII. Outreach – Sam Nelson reminded the Alliance that CH’s Outreach programs are aimed at disadvantaged students at PHS, helping them transition to high school, then prepare to enter the work force, college, or military service after high school. They brought 7 junior and senior students to Medgar Evars College last weekend; 2 received instant decision to West Delaware State. Sam also noted the importance of work to Outreach students; many of them contribute to their family’s household expenses.

XIV. Corner House Foundation – Tracy Kindelsperger announced the Corner House Annual Report and direct mail campaign will begin distribution on the Friday before Thanksgiving.

XV. Board of Health – No representative was available today.

XVI. Old Business – none.

XVII. New Business – none

- a. Public Comment – none offered.

The Alliance adjourned at 12:54 PM. Motion Susan Conlon, second Leighton Newlin, approved by a show of hands.

Next Meeting: November 3, 2022, via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Woodman, Secretary to the PADA.

Minutes approved November 3, 2022