

MINUTES: 6/8/21 ALCOHOL TASK FORCE

12 - 1 PM

In Person at Public Health Office and Online over Zoom

Co-Chairs: Cassie Crumpton and Robin Carnes

Present:

Peggy Weber, Community member, Tobacco TF Co-Chair

Darren Hull, Sublette Chamber

KC Lehr, Sheriff, Sublette County Sheriff's Office

Mike Crosson, Sublette County Attorney

Robin Carnes, Sublette Public Health

Sherri Redden, Big Piney Town Council

Melinda Bobo, Coalition Chair, Priest, St. Andrew's Church

Deanne Swain, Coalition Media, D. Swain Design

Trisha Scott, Coalition Coordinator

12:06 - Trisha called the meeting to order. Note: Co Chair Cassie Crumpton is absent today due to work travel; Co-Chair Robin Carnes is attending on zoom from the Marbleton Public Health Office.

Discussion: New Town Permit revisions requiring 24-hour catering & sale of malt beverages permit holders to have TIPS certified servers. Certificates must be provided. Town of Pinedale Clerk Maureen Rudnick asked for feedback.

Darren: This is going to be really difficult for events like the BrewFest to comply with. Issue 1: Most breweries send sales reps to these events, not servers. Says that most breweries will pull out rather than put their salesmen through a 4 hour training. Issue 2: Says that changing the dynamic of the event by requiring a designated area for drinking isn't good for the overall feel of the event. In his experience, it creates more issues. Understands that there is purpose behind the policies, but this blanket policy is going to create other issues that weren't thought of.

Robin asks if the Umbrella application for the group, ie the BrewFest can provide a quick training for the vendors. Darren doesn't think that it will, per the wording of the permit application.

The state (application) does not require TIPS trained servers, some local municipalities do.

DH on behalf of the Chamber also expresses concerns that there isn't time to implement the changes and notify vendors at Rendezvous, Museum wine & art auction and BrewFest, etc.

KC suggests that concerned parties all appear at the next Town Council meeting to discuss with people who can answer the questions. KC is also concerned about enforcement issues. He wants to see the resolution and hear from the Town directly.

MB wants to have a clarifying conversation with the Town, especially about the questionnaire, and how those questions apply to the granting of the permit.

Sherri brought up events where the alcohol is donated and volunteers serve the beverages. Questions if this permit will affect those types of events. Mentioned having a breathalyzer at a recent event for education only. So people could have an awareness of where they are at before they leave the event. Not an enforcement tool.

Trisha asked the group for how to respond to the Town's request for feedback. DH and KC feel like the same issues apply to whichever event/group, not just the BrewFest.

MB suggests that maybe the town can implement the TIPS training requirement, a recommendation now and firm deadline in 6 months to a year in the future. DH says that approach would mitigate a lot of hard feelings with bar owners/events/vendors.

RC asked if SPC can cover the fees for online training in addition to the in person training. Trisha says yes SPC can reimburse all TIPS training costs to business owners, except for their wages. TIPS expressly expects owners to pay servers for their wages for the time spent to do the training.

DH suggests contacting other towns and communities (that have brewfests) to see what they have implemented that has worked. Keep things easy without a government overreach. Trisha will follow up on that suggestion.

TIPS certification is good for 3 years.

RC asked Trisha to get numbers from Tracy on TIPS training effectiveness and DUI numbers.

DH asked KC where most DUIs come from. KC reported that 70% refuse to answer. Most that do answer report an equal mix of home and establishment.

Trisha asked who wanted to approach the town with the concerns. She will communicate on behalf of the SPC, KC will respond for the Sheriff and Darren will respond for the Chamber/BrewFest.

MB wants to make TIPS training available for everyone, not just servers, so then it's a community wide issue not just a server issue. She prefers the focus to be on safe and healthy consumption.

1:04 Possible task force name/campaign switch from Moderate Drinking campaign/Alcohol Misuse Task Force to Impaired Driving campaign/Task Force.

MB feels that Impaired Driving cuts off the Misuse at home part and the effects of alcohol Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) criteria, ex: domestic violence Trisha says they will revisit at perhaps the next full SPC meeting

KC likes the idea of a name change for the image/perception change in that it helps keep the focus on public safety and health rather than “prohibition” and morality policing.

More thinking and conversation will be coming on a name change.

1:05 GCID push for 24/7 monitoring

MC - holes in statute, doesn't work really well, provides for 24/7 monitoring of people who have more than 2 DUIs, is very expensive, takes a lot of time to implement.

KC explained more about how the program works, has a kiosk that people go to. Initial cost is huge, internet access, security, etc. And there is a cost to the probationer, which can be onerous.

Converse, Natrona, Fremont, and Crook or Goshen currently use. Teton is moving towards it.

Trisha: Cassie's concerns are that face to face interaction is really important for check-ins with probationers to see how they're doing and troubleshooting other things going on for the probationer that may be challenging a successful recovery.

Trisha: we wouldn't be tied to a 24/7 monitoring program if SPC chooses to change focus from alcohol to impaired driving.

1:11 Adjourn