

Meeting Report

March 25, 2014

6pm-7:45pm

SAFE TASK FORCE Members in attendance: Peggy K. Goodwin, Julie Farhat, Kathy Knapp, Maureen Elliott, Jaclyn Maccuria, Liz Bayer

Excused: Jack Salter, Corrigan O'Donohue, Josh Elizondo

Chief's Report:

Chief O'Donohue was unable to attend, but provided the following report:

- The PD has responded to 2 suicides and 2 attempt suicides this year. That compares to 2 suicides and 4 attempts last year.
- We have also responded to 65 mental health commitments, which compares to 48 last year.
- Keep in mind our numbers on attempt suicides are not accurate as very often our mental health commitments involve potentially suicidal people.
- Last week a former RO high student, who moved to Florida last year, committed suicide. The school is aware of it and is providing counseling to the students who knew her.
- Officer Baroky, the School Liaison Officer, was able to bring about 7 students to the Bullying presentation. He said it was an excellent presentation and the students who came with him (a couple of which he suspected were bully's themselves) really seem to get a lot out of it.

Events:

Liz provided updates on **Take Back the Night to combat Sexual Assault on April 25th** in Ferndale. Liz will provide information at the April 7th City Commission during which Haven will be presented with a proclamation for Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Julie provided updates on **Mind Over Matter / The MOM Race on May 3rd** in Royal Oak. Julie said her goal is to keep the walk/run in the same location in Royal Oak, despite its growth over nine years. Julie will be speaking at a future City Commission meeting to provide more information.

Post SAFE Meeting, Peggy was invited to have Royal Oak SAFE participate in Beaumont Health System's **Mental Health Fair at Beaumont Royal Oak on May 28**. The event celebrates May as Mental Health Awareness Month and is open to the public.

High School Representation:

The committee discussed the fact that The Bullycide Project impacted both the middle school youth and adult audiences, but very few high school students and only one high school staff member were able to participate. Kathy Knapp will check into having a staff member from Royal Oak High School become part of the task force and attend Royal Oak SAFE meetings.

Research Project with Beaumont Health System:

Maureen Elliott had no report at this time. We are still on track to announce the findings at our second-annual community dialogue in the Fall.

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention:

Peggy was appointed to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's Michigan Board of Directors. She hopes to strengthen the relationship between AFSP and Royal Oak. AFSP's major event, "Out of the Darkness," takes place in September.

Other Business:

Kathy Knapp brought up the issue of sex trafficking, which is a growing problem in Metro Detroit (see articles below). Her daughter recently attended a seminar and learned how predators are preying on young people at gas stations as well as using hotel/motels.

Peggy mentioned the Crime Prevention Council is also interested in this subject, and perhaps we can collaborate on a community meeting where we bring in presenters from the Michigan Human Trafficking Task Force to learn more.

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140305/METRO02/303050082>

<http://www.myfoxdetroit.com/story/23794439/human-trafficking-sex-slavery-a-bigger-problem-in-detroit-than-you-might-think>

<http://www.freep.com/article/20130729/NEWS05/307290075/child-prostitution-metro-Detroit-pimp-ring>