



Tobacco Free Partnership of Dixie County

Date: August 21, 2023 Time: 1:00 pm

Location: Sub-way 25855 SE Hwy 19, Old Town, Florida

Meeting Minutes

I. Lola Butler, Chair welcomed each member and ask them to sign in.

Amanda NesSmith, Co-Chair, Parent and School Board Member

Melanie Anderson, Dixie County TFFP, QuitDoc Foundation

Cassidy Terry, Hanley Foundation Prevention Specialist

Shelby Langford Crawford, Hanley Foundation Prevention Specialist

Christy Roberts, Dixie County Anti-Drug Coalition

Ella Lyman, SRAHEC

II. Old Business

- A. Lola Butler shared information about the 2023 Dixie School Board K-12 Tobacco Policy that was passed in April. She shared how the School Board has asked for assistance in communicating the policy change with parents and visitors.
- B. Amanda NesSmith shared that the TFP had Presented to the County Commissioners several times last year, on Tobacco Free Parks and Beaches. The status was waiting for the county attorney to create the policy and to add it to the agenda to be voted on during a county commissioners meeting.

III. New Business

- A) Melanie Anderson shared the 2023-24 Fiscal Year – Policy Goals and Objectives identified by the BTFF and how the partners can assist in these areas.
 - i) The Point of Sale Tobacco Products Policy Area, the partnership will be collaborating with community leaders to eliminate menthol from all tobacco products. These community groups will need to be identified, the partners will need to be educated on the benefits of eliminating menthol from tobacco products, and how to promote a menthol free community at community events. The TFP members discussed gathering information on the different organizations that join the policy work.
- B) K-12 Comprehensive Tobacco Control Policy was discussed as to promote the policy change to visitors and parents. One of the biggest concerns is that the high schools baseball, softball and baseball fields are located at a different location (near the old school grounds/now county school board office) and not on the high school grounds. While the Tobacco Free Partnership, Melanie Anderson and BTFF is working on signage for the schools and the sports fields, this

football season needs a tool to get the message out to the attendees. Lola Butler proposed that the partnership sponsor the Dixie Quarterback Club-Quarter Sponsor where the Tobacco Free Partnership will be identified over the intercom with an announcement of the new tobacco/vape free policy at the ball games. This sponsorship could also begin a working relationship with the Quarterback Club which is parents and community organizations.

The TFP also discussed the need for the alternative to suspension and cessation for youth. Ella Lyman shared that the AHEC program for youth has been delayed so that it can not be shared with the schools at this time.

C) Tobacco Free Parks and Beaches (County and City Policies)

- Follow-up on County Policy movement (County Attorney)
- Follow-up with County Commissioners who support a policy change.
- Plan a Beach Clean-Up with SWAT Youth. Shired Island is the only “beach” maintained by the county so that is the most appropriate location for a beach clean-up. The partnership members discussed how they would need to organize transportation for the SWAT youth because it is a good distance for them to have to travel alone. Amanda NesSmith said that they school board has a van that can be used. The partnership members agreed to volunteer to feed the youth and to attend the clean-up.
- The partnership discussed that since there are new SWAT advisors and youth, they will need to be trained on speaking to the Town of Cross City Council about Tobacco Free Parks. The partnership discussed that if the county passes a tobacco free parks and beaches ordinance, they should wait until after that to address the Town of Cross City.

D) SWAT Reports

SWAT Recruitment Activities

- i) Ruth Rains Middle School SWAT New Advisor, Jordan Butler
 - a. Report on the Statewide SWAT Training June 8-11 and how to address future SWAT Trainings that happen overnight. Parents shared that they were very upset with the students being placed in hotel rooms on separate floors from the advisor, the presentations were too sensitive to 11- and 12-year-old students and the training did not provide much to bring back to the SWAT clubs.
- ii) Dixie County High School SWAT Advisor New Advisor, Amy Jones
- iii) The tobacco free partnership chair, co-chair, Christy Roberts and Cassidy Terry shared the strong need for a SWAT club at the Dixie Learning Academy in Old Town. The private school (charter school) has students that seem to be missing the tobacco free messages. Lola Butler shared a contact with the school to reach out to, in hopes of get this club started.

- IV. The Quarter 2 Tobacco Free Partnership Meeting has not been scheduled but will be planned with the Dixie County High School so that this meeting can be scheduled with them so that the SWAT youth can attend a meeting.