

# **Tobacco and Alcohol Coalition Meeting**

Virtual Format/Microsoft Teams

March 4, 2021

3:00 pm to 4:30 pm

## **MINUTES:**

**Members present:** Todd Crum (FCHD- BHS), Wayne Dorsey (SOS Safe Ride), Ofc. Brian Donavan (TPD), Brian Griffin (FCPS), Hillary Gross (FCHD- BHS), Blair Innis (LRC), Diyora Isrolova (AACF), Laura LaMotte (FCHD- BHS), Katie Martin (LRC), Lisa McDonald (BGCFC), Diane McIntyre (FCPS), Esther Slack-Metellus (AACF), PJ Miller (FCHD- BHS), Marge Rosensweig (RMA), Nate Smith (FCHD- BHS), Sgt. Jerimy Tindal (MSP), Tina Williams (MHSO), and Hongwei Xu (AACF).

1. Approval of Minutes
  - a. The minutes from the January 7, 2021 meeting were approved.
2. Round Robin/Updates from Coalition Members
  - a. Update from Ofc. Brian Donovan (Thurmont Police Department)
    - i. Restrictions placed on the department due to COVID, compliance checks are currently on hold
  - b. Update from Sgt. Jerimy Tindal (Maryland State Police)
    - i. Alcohol compliance checks will resume later this month
  - c. Update from Asian American Center of Frederick (AACF staff)
    - i. Interested in working with tobacco merchants and youth tobacco education
    - ii. Working with youth in the middle school program
    - iii. Interested in having an event for Kick Butts Day and youth enrichment class
  - d. Update from Brian Griffin (Frederick County Public Schools- FCPS)
    - i. Hybrid learning started this month
    - ii. A meeting scheduled with high school directors to discuss Aspire program for implementation in schools for tobacco/vaping violations
  - e. Update from Tina Williams (MD Highway Safety Office- MHSO)
    - i. MHSO 2021-25 Strategic Highway Safety Plan was approved, includes a strategy focused on impaired driving
    - ii. MHSO grant applications for FY2022 are currently open, they are due March 12<sup>th</sup>, visit [zerodeathsmd.gov](http://zerodeathsmd.gov) for additional information
  - f. Update from Nate Smith (FCHD-BHS)
    - i. Works with academic detailing which includes providing outreach to physicians, behavioral health providers and sharing resources

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- g. Update from Lisa McDonald (Boys and Girls Club)
  - i. Interested in having a program around tobacco/alcohol prevention end of March for Drug and Alcohol Facts Week or Take Down Tobacco Day
- h. Update from Diane McIntyre (FCPS/FCHD- School Health)
  - i. Students started hybrid, working with COVID related issues
- j. Update from Wayne Dorsey (SOS Safe Ride)
  - i. SOS Safe Ride re-opened last weekend since restaurants are allowed to be open later
  - ii. The scared straight program for drunk drivers (6-week program for DUI offenders) is up and running

3. Maryland Tobacco and Alcohol Legislation Session 2021 Update (Presented by Katie Martin, Legal Resource Center, Center for Public Policy)

- a. Tobacco Bills
  - HB732: Tax Increase Veto Override (from 2020 Session)
    - Once the law goes into effect, the tax rates on cigarettes and other tobacco products will increase, and there will be a tax rate of 12% on ESDs
    - Effective 30 days from 2/12/21
  - HB134/SB177: Flavored Tobacco Product Ban
    - Prohibits the manufacturing, shipping, importing, or selling of flavored tobacco products in MD
  - SB410/HB1011: Local Authority to Regulate Tobacco (Preemption Bill)
    - Authorizes a county or municipality to enact and enforce local laws regulating the sale and distribution of cigarettes, other tobacco products, and electronic smoking devices
- b. Statewide Alcohol Bills
  - HB12/SB205: Cocktails To-Go
    - Permits bars, restaurants, and taverns to sell sealed cocktails for carryout and delivery
  - HB796: Alcohol Sales Tax Decrease
    - Decreases the alcohol sales tax from 9% to 6% until 2023
  - HB994: Class A License Delivery
    - Enables Class A license holders to engage in delivery alcohol sales
  - HB996/SB763: Grocery Store Beer and Wine Sales
    - Allows grocery retailers to sell beer and wine

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c. Frederick County Alcohol Bills

HB1240/SB693: Stadium Styrofoam

- Disallows the use of Styrofoam cups for alcoholic beverages at stadium events

HB1241/SB791: Cocktails To-Go

- Allows Class B license holders to sell carryout and delivery cocktails (nearly identical to HB12)

HB1242/SB793: Beer and Wine/Beer, Wine, and Liquor Consumption Permit

- Permits Class A license holders to apply for a BWLC license, which would allow for consumption of ~1 standard drink on the licensed premises

HB1270/SB694: Salons/Barbershops Beer Volume Increase

- Increases from 5 oz. to 12 oz. the amount of beer a barbershop or salon may provide

HB1272/SB792: Wine Alcohol Content Increase

- Increases from 21% to 22%, the maximum percentage of alcohol by volume for wine that Class 3 wineries and Class 4 limited wineries holding a Class A wine license in Frederick County may sell
- Also increases from 14.5% to 22% the maximum percentage of alcohol by volume for alcoholic beverages that a restaurant holding a Class B beer, wine, and liquor hotel or restaurant license may sell

d. For additional questions regarding these bills

i. Contact Katie Martin with LRC via email: [kemartin@umaryland.edu](mailto:kemartin@umaryland.edu)

ii. Visit [Maryland General Assembly website](#) for additional details

4. Tobacco and Alcohol Program Update

a. Tobacco Community Mini-grant opportunities

- i. Tobacco Prevention Program has two funding opportunities for local community organizations to reduce tobacco use among Frederick County youth.
- ii. Youth Tobacco Use Prevention Mini-Grants:
  1. Two grants of up to \$2,450 each are available to community organizations in Frederick County to use for tobacco prevention activities to educate youth about the dangers of youth tobacco use, including preventing youth vaping/e-cigarette use.
  2. Grants awarded on a competitive basis and priority given to virtual interactions or other delivery methods that incorporate appropriate COVID safety protocols.

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- iii. Tobacco Merchant Education Mini-Grant:
  - 1. One grant of up to \$2,450 is available to community organizations in Frederick County to conduct educational sessions (by phone, virtual and/or face-to-face) to tobacco merchants in Frederick County.
  - 2. These educational sessions will provide information regarding the laws related to tobacco sales, including e-cigarettes to a list of 50 selected tobacco merchants within the City of Frederick.
  - 3. One of these grants went to the Living Well Youth Works organization in the fall; they completed the 50 merchant education visits.
  - 4. Application for both grants are due by Monday, March 15<sup>th</sup>
  - 5. All funded activities need to be completed by Tuesday, June 1, 2021.
  - 6. Visit the [FCHD Tobacco Prevention Program website](#) for further details.
- b. Tobacco Cessation Program
  - i. The cessation program continues over the phone and virtually for participants with modified pick-up due to current health regulations.
  - ii. Medication is available through curbside pick-up.
  - iii. Another cessation resource available through the State is the [1-800-Quit-Now](#) hotline, which also offers support through text.
- c. Alcohol- Substance Abuse Block Grant (SABG)/MSPF2 Update
  - i. Maryland Strategic Prevention Framework (MSPF2) - Received notice of extension of funding for this project until June 30, 2021. Will continue to use social media campaign to promote responsible drinking tips and work with Frederick County Liquor Board to continue to support efforts for alcohol merchant education through offering ID guides and underage sale prevention.
  - ii. Maryland State Police is ready to begin alcohol compliance checks this month.
  - iii. There will be a final evaluation of the MSPF2 program and the Think Before You Drink (TBYD) media campaign in the upcoming months to determine the effectiveness of the campaign and other strategies implemented.
    - 1. Key Informant Interviews with Law Enforcement and alcohol merchants will be conducted to determine if compliance checks had an impact on merchant behavior; will also conduct interviews with young adults (ages 18-25) to determine the effectiveness of the campaign and any changes in drinking behavior.
    - 2. Online surveys (ages 18-25) will also be conducted using Facebook and Instagram with a set parameter of ages and Frederick County residents, to determine the impact of the TBYD social media on drinking behavior.
    - 3. Wayne offered to have the survey on his app for SOS Safe Ride.
    - 4. Gift cards will be offered as an incentive for participation.
    - 5. The Coalition will be asked to either participate in surveys or help disseminate the surveys.
    - 6. Introduced Hillary Gross, an epidemiologist with the FCHD, who is assisting with the evaluation of prevention programs.

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## 5. Upcoming Events/Announcements

- a. National Drug & Alcohol Facts Week (March 22 to March 28)
  - i. National Institute on Drug Abuse hosts this event
  - ii. FCHD will have daily posts on Stay In The Know youth prevention social media campaign
- b. Take Down Tobacco- National Day of Action (April 1<sup>st</sup>)
  - i. Formerly known as Kick Butts Day
  - ii. April 1<sup>st</sup> (April Fools Day) was selected to symbolize youth won't be fooled by the tobacco industry
- c. National Drug Take Back Day (April 24<sup>th</sup>)
  - i. Two locations in Frederick- Former Trinity School near Key Stadium and Law Enforcement Center (MSP Frederick Barracks)
  - ii. Currently, in the planning phase for this event, a flyer will be sent to the Coalition when details are confirmed

### **Next Coalition Meeting:**

*Thursday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm (Virtual meeting through Microsoft Teams)*