

Minutes
Breathe-Free IRC
(Also known as Tobacco-Free Partnership of IRC)
Wednesday, October 5, 2011
3:45 p.m. to 5 p.m.

In Attendance:

Lisa Willnow	Darin Jones	Kristen Britt	Marie Blanchard
Beth Weatherstone	Mary Burkins	Marilyn Leeds	

1. Call to order and introductions –

- ❖ The minutes were approved from September’s meeting.

2. Revised By-Laws – signatures needed on typed revision of By-Laws from last meeting

- ❖ Bylaws had been approved last meeting.
- ❖ Mary did change the section VI #1 about committees. She removed “and must have at least one youth representative”. Had to table this change until next meeting until next time until there are enough present to vote.
- ❖ A voting committee was suggested. Core people would be the voting members of the group and others attend and participate in discussions.
- ❖ It was suggested to amend the bylaws to allow for less for majority.
- ❖ Final decision was to table the bylaws to the next meeting.
- ❖ Send it out to members before next meeting and have an email vote.
- ❖ Suggested to define what a majority is and what the sentence on X.1 refers to as a majority.
- ❖ Lisa questioned if the roster is accurate and do these members attend and vote.
- ❖ Mary will send out updated bylaws showing the proposed changes, via email for an email vote.
- ❖ Since the vote will occur via email, the new bylaws will be signed by committee members at next meeting.

3. Official Change in Partnership Name and Logo – Darin Jones

- ❖ Suggested to change to ***Breathe Free IRC*** and eventually eliminate the Tobacco Free Partnership of IRC.
- ❖ Lisa stated Robin did not like the word Tobacco because it makes everyone think of tobacco.
- ❖ This name will slowly move to Breathe Free IRC
- ❖ It was questioned if this committee was going to join with the other coalition. Mary explained that the committees meet consecutively for convenience of attendees only. The two committees will maintain their separate identities.
- ❖ A discussion about the new name ensued. The logo will also need to be changed. It has been suggested that we put the committee logo on the signs to be posted at park.
- ❖ The change in logo will be voted on at the next meeting. Not necessary for the name.
- ❖ Marilyn suggested that it wasn’t necessary to vote on the logo change. Lisa stated the State gives us so few choices anyway, that a vote is not necessary. There is not much to vote on.

4. Suggestions/Discussion regarding tobacco-free multi-unit dwellings – Lisa Willnow

- ❖ The state’s policy initiative is to get some smoke free policies in place for apartment complexes.

- ❖ Beth stated there were two apartment complexes that have some smoke free buildings. Pines of Vero and one located in Gifford.
- ❖ Lisa has been sending surveys to tenants because the apartment managers were not cooperating.
- ❖ Surveys came back 80% in favor of smoke free. Return rate was low 10-20%.
- ❖ Beth suggested contacting the owners. River Park Place property manager was supportive. Lisa brought in the surveys. Another manager claimed it was discrimination. But she also mentioned not wanting to deal with the wrath of the smokers.
- ❖ There are one/half dozen places in this county that have smoke free policies. The neighbors tend to do the enforcement. They are hoping that people will self enforce.
- ❖ Mary stated the latest results show that 19% of IRC adult residents smoke.
- ❖ Marilyn stated the goal was to get to only 12% by 2020

5. Tobacco-free Workplaces – Lisa Willnow

- ❖ Lisa stated she has not worked on this yet. She stated since we cannot smoke indoors – it appears like it should be a focus on tobacco use.
- ❖ In St. Lucie County, Sheriff's department will give their employees one year to cease tobacco use. It will now be a requirement for continued employment – tobacco free at work and off duty. Darin will follow up and bring the information from St. Lucie for the next meeting.

6. Tobacco Free Zones in the Parks and the Schools – Mary Burkins

- ❖ Schools – Ladell had taken the informal survey at the VBHS football games on – 9/9, 9/16, 9/23 - approximately 20-25 smokers at each game. Mary explained that this district has an informal smoking area because there is a no re-admittance policy at the district football games.
- ❖ Mary asked if Beth had any information. Explained that district may start looking at this in November. Lisa asked if maybe they could go to the Health Insurance Committee meeting. Beth gave them the date/time/and place. It is a public meeting.
- ❖ Marie asked about the policies. Beth answered each school has their own policy. Marie described what she has observed at Oslo. Concerned about the “flammable” sign near the smoking area. The flammable stuff has been moved and the smoking area is still being used.
- ❖ Parks – slow process. Still at the same point as last meeting. Trying to get the Vero Beach Recreation Commission to recommend to the Vero Beach City Council to adopt a resolution to cease tobacco use at the parks and beaches. Requested we encourage people to send a letters to support tobacco-free zones to Vero Beach City Council members. See letter passed out at meeting.
- ❖ Vicki Wild from Keep Indian River Beautiful has put up a “shark bait tank” at the Vero Beach City Marina. It has been hugely successful.

7. SWAT/YES team update – Kristen Britt

- ❖ Boys and girls club have just signed a Memorandum of Agreement to participate in “YES team” at their boys and girls club facility.
- ❖ WHO AND WHO HAS IT? Purchased a curriculum about Tobacco Free Advocacy.
- ❖ Sponsor purchased water bottles for older students which are being called the “YES team” Youth empowered to speak.
- ❖ Students who are meeting and volunteering are earning volunteer hours for graduation.
- ❖ Two YES team members recently spoke at the IRC legislative delegation regarding the dangers of candy flavored tobacco products.
- ❖ T-shirts were purchased
- ❖ They have met with the VBHS SAC team.

- ❖ Meeting this month with another organization through the Charter High School and will be presenting the YES information.
- ❖ Marie has been doing a great job with the Oslo SWAT team.
 - First meeting was last month
 - 68 signed up
 - 73 students attended
 - Up to 121 students on roster at this point for a meeting tomorrow
 - PowerPoint on the Candy Flavored Tobacco
 - Chain of life – using construction paper. SWAT kids will be in green and other students will be in blue and white.
 - Lisa stated she has a sponsorship event for a VBHS 5K run. She will send in the sponsorship form and money– the logo will be the Breathe Free/Tobacco Free IRC. Students can be at the start of the run with the SWAT kids and the SWAT sign. Marie wasn't sure if the kids wouldn't want the Breathe Free T-shirt. She thought they would prefer the emblem to say SWAT. Marie will ask the students tomorrow at the meeting. A discussion ensued. A decision was made to include the SWAT logo on the runner's t-shirts.
 - **SWAT marches in the Halloween parade.**
 - Lisa invited the SWAT team from the Boys and Girls Club. **Kristen stated that the Boys and Girls club have only the YES team, not SWAT.**
 - Marie did a survey with the Oslo students who attended the first meeting. She shared the data collected.

8. Open Discussion and Announcements

- Marilyn Leeds announced that EAHEC is providing a “relapse prevention” class on Tuesdays. This is for people who have already taken the six-week Quit Smoking Now Class.
- Marilyn also announced that EAHEC has a new Tools to Quit class for people who can't commit to the six week Quit Smoking Now class. Tools to Quit is a one day class that meets for 90 minutes.
- Mary spoke about the cigars that look like cigarettes. She showed us some flavored ones. Cigars are not taxed so the price is significantly less (\$1.75). Tobacco companies keep coming up with ways to entice people to smoke.
- **Darin spoke of the Tobacco Details**, the money ran out for the previous grant year. But since the new fiscal year started, they have been conducting Tobacco Details again. There have been 17 citations issued for kids **and 9 NTA's (Notice to Appear) issued to retailers**. The retailers are calling other retailers when they have been “stung”, so Darin stated they hit the stores at the same time, and weRE able to find 5 violators at the same time.
- Lisa is attempting to have retailers fill out surveys. The opposition from retailers is significant.

Adjournment – The next quarterly Partnership meeting will be on **Wednesday, December 7, 2011 at 3:45 PM**. Please meet at the **United Way Building, 1836 14th Avenue, Vero Beach, FL 32960**.

Submitted by Beth Weatherstone