

North Port CHAT Meeting Summary
June 9th, 2010 4:30 pm

Present: Fay Williams, Chief Terry Lewis, Tom Davie, Laura Yahres, Tom Davie, Corie Haring, Dawn Fenton, Janis Russell, Hilary Woodcum, Ken Alexander, Susan Owens, Mary McDonald, Rachel Perry, Todd Konen, Sam George, Tom Jones, Sue Steele Miller, Christyl Lunsford, Linda Stone, David Carter, David Garofalo, Jenn-Marie Grant, Diane Ramseyer

Welcome and Introductions – Fay Williams welcomed everyone, and introductions were provided.

May Meeting Summary Acceptance - May Meeting reviewed and accepted as written.

CHAT Structure Planning – Handouts provided which showed the current structure of CHAT, and its place in the Community Health Improvement Partnership. Additionally, an Annual Update on the activities of the North Port CHAT was provided. These materials provided the framework for the decision on the creating a CHAT structure for North Port which is self-sustaining. Diane will continue to provide support in taking meeting notes, but will not be as available to assist with projects as in the past. This challenges the CHAT to identify responsible CHAT members to work on tasks within projects.

Current Structure

Chair/Co-Chair – Fay Williams/David Carter (David will move into Chair role in 2011)

CHAT Coordinator – Diane Ramseyer (Diane will be adding duties within CHIP, so less able to do

Committee Chairs – Sam George (Health Services), Monica Becket (NP-ASAP)

Additionally – *North Port Connects* is an adjunct group out of CHAT – Sue Steele Miller provides leadership for this group. Library is also very supportive, offering meeting location. They will need help with the website – the CHAT’s ability to provide the web-hosting will not continue past August. Should funds be secured to sustain the website, there is assistance needed to keep it updated. Group agreed to continue to be a primary sponsor of this effort (though this is not a monetary sponsorship, since the CHAT does not have specific funding tied to it.) The CHAT members offer donations to fully fund an additional year at an “economy” webhost. Diane will arrange the transfer and update and upload of the website. This will occur mid-late August.

Roles needed to make CHAT self-sufficient – The CHAT has already created a succession plan for the CHAT Chairs – a Co-Chair is elected annually, with the Co-Chair moving into Chair position after one year (January 1 – December 31). The CHAT agreed to mirror this succession plan to all the Committees. In addition – any project must have a champion (responsible CHAT member/volunteer) identified before being sponsored by the CHAT. In addition if the project does not fit under a standing committee, there must be a Chair and Co-Chair identified, as it will require establishing a new committee/workgroup.

Our Mission: Through the efforts and activities of the North Port CHAT, we will achieve a safe, healthy community where individuals and agencies collaborate to assure the physical, social, and emotional well-being of all residents. We will accomplish this through advocacy for an integrated health and behavioral health care system, evoking community action and collaboration to reduce substance abuse among our youth and adults, promoting the value of “connectivity” in all aspects of the development and growth of our community, and most importantly, providing an effective way for the voice of the community to be heard and active in North Port.

Community health depends on community voices

Additionally – Diane will prepare a list of equipment resources available to CHAT members for projects (i.e. projector is on its way).

ANNUAL UPDATE:

Health Services

Accomplishments:

- Advocacy for increased health providers in North Port
 - North Port Emergency Room Opening
 - Advocacy for Pediatrician – North Port Health Clinic
 - Welcoming new physicians and dentists
 - Discussions with Developers on Medical Condo Design
- Community Education on H1N1
- Community Child Dental Health Initiative Plan
- Updated Health and Human Services Directory

On the horizon

- Implementation of Community Child Dental Health Initiative
- Continued welcome of new physicians and dentists
- Advocating for increase access to care for uninsured and underinsured

NP-ASAP

Accomplishments:

- North Port Drug-Free Youth Initiative Launched
- Operation Medicine Cabinet in North Port
- Drug-Free Communities Grant submitted with Chamber
- Partnering on Prescription Drug Vigil

On the horizon

- Full implementation of NP D-Fy
- Drug-Free Workplace Week in October
- Rx Disposal “safe” in North Port

North Port Connects

Accomplishments

- Website – www.northportconnects.com
- Email blasts about activities and Twitter
- Quarterly meetings – Past topics - SHARE program, Environment (next meeting topic –June 14th), Tax tips for Non-Profits, Summer Activities.
- Provides opportunities to learn about volunteering and organizations in North Port – their programs and activities

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Next month – After the special discussion on Homelessness in North Port, with guests from organizations and community members who are interested in this topic, we will finalize the structuring process. This will be limited to no more than thirty minutes. Champions and co-chairs for committees will be identified. There will be an overview of project management program (Diane and CHIP) which will be used to help everyone track activities and progress.

Update on North Port transportation project – Several CHAT members met with SCAT, SMH (Michael Harrington) and City of North Port (Danny Shult) to discuss opportunity to have a Park-n-Ride tied to their Express Route on some land owned by the Hospital. There had been a disconnect between SMH and SCAT, which appears to be resolved through this discussion. Updates will be provided as available.

Community Announcements –

Tidewell is now offering a grief program for Pet Loss:

July 7th – 5:30 -7pm at Cultural Center of Charlotte County – RSVP 625-4113.

Upcoming Meetings

North Port Connects Meeting – June 14th at 5:30 pm – North Port Library

July 1st, 4:00 pm – Health Services Com – North Port Family Services Center 6919 Outreach Way (corner of Pan American and Outreach) *Date and Time Change – now First Thursday of each month at 4:00 pm.*

Next CHAT meeting – July 14th – 4:30 pm at North Port Police Department
Special discussion on Homelessness in North Port – with local Coalition, Schoolhouse Link and Local group of Women from North Port

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