

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Chief Chris Hughes, Chair  
Julie Taylor, Vice-Chair  
Jason Onken-Covert,  
Treasurer

### Members at Large:

Stephanie Pinnow  
Susan Pomatto  
Jess Marass

### Youth Representative:

Kaiden Chojnacki

2602 1<sup>st</sup> Center Ave,  
Brodhead, WI 53520  
608-897-9081  
[BetterBrodhead@gmail.com](mailto:BetterBrodhead@gmail.com)

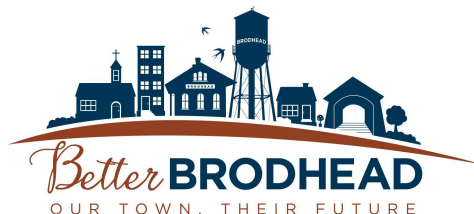
### Staff

Kathleen Comeau, Program  
Director

Jen Wichita, Community  
Service Coordinator

Krista Santiago, Bilingual  
Community Service  
Coordinator

Alexis Speth, Community  
Service Coordinator



## Coalition Meeting Summary

January 17, 2023

5:15

2602 1st Center Ave, Brodhead, WI

Attendance: Chief Chris Hughes, Chair; Julie Taylor, Vice-Chair, Erin Lemezis-Schadewaldt, Jason Onken-Covert, Sue Pomatto, Gary & Mary Mason, Tia Santiago, Lex Speth, Jen Wichita, Kathy Comeau

### Welcome and Introductions

Julie proposed that we adjust the agenda so that the Mason's could do their presentation first. Everyone agreed.

### Guest Speakers

Mary & Gary Mason introduced Daisy and Abigail, two certified therapy dogs to the group. The Mason's belong to the Southern WI Canine Therapy Dog Association. Both dog and handler are covered by insurance. The dogs vet and insurance costs are paid through donations. The dogs are groomed every 5-6 weeks. The dogs and handlers go through 32 weeks of dog training starting with basic obedience and then they have environmental training, good canine citizen training and finally therapy dog training. They are tested and require certification yearly. Mary and Gary provide their services free of charge. They have worked in nursing homes, with domestic abuse victims, libraries.

There was some discussion about using this service for the Mental Health/suicide prevention training. Alexis said that she would contact the Mason's when we schedule a training.

### Consent agenda

The consent agenda only included the staff report. Last month's meeting was the holiday party so there were no meeting notes. There was a motion to accept the staff report. Everyone agreed.

The vision of Better Brodhead is a community where everyone is valued and safe.

Mission: *Working together to prevent and reduce alcohol and other drug use among youth and foster positive relationships for a safe, healthy, and inclusive community.*

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### Budget Review

The DFC, STOP Act, and CARA grants summaries were reviewed. Kathy mentioned that the hotel costs were split between the grants and should have been taken from the DFC carry over funds. She will discuss it with the accountant.

Jason discussed the general funds and the new process to make sure we have an accurate balance sheet. Current balance is \$1138. The general funds will be reported on monthly.

### New Grant: MHAT

Kathy described the grant requirements. Alexis and Kristia described the training that they went to. It consisted of 16 hours of intensive training. The trainers provided them with suicide crisis intervention scenarios.

### Strategic Planning Modules for the AWY Stipend

The group agreed that we would work through the modules as a group. It may take about 2 hours to complete a modules - based on last year's experience.

Kathy will order pizza for module nights. The first session will be on Jan 24th at 5:15, the second session will be Feb 20th at 12:00.

### Virtual Platforms: Zoom vs Google Meet

Since we are a non profit organization, we get the google suite for free. This includes Google Meet which is Google's virtual platform. The Zoom annual subscription is approximately \$900. It was proposed that we cancel the Zoom subscription and use Google Meet for virtual meetings. Everyone agreed.

### Conference

Since not everyone at the meeting will be attending the conference, it was suggested that Julie and Kristia are in charge of planning conference

### Brat Stand Money

There was a discussion about the money from the Brat Stand. Jason will talk to Justin from Piggly Wiggly to see if he wants to donate the food costs. It was agreed that if he donates the cost, then Better Brodhead will present him with a

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plaque. The board members agreed that a portion of the proceeds would go to Teen Connection and the rest of the money would go to support Green County Pride.

### Upcoming events:

Community Supper: Feb 23rd. Alexis said that the band would play music and there were elementary school cheerleaders who could perform. Stoughton Trailer donated \$500 towards the food costs. Jason said he would volunteer at the event.

### Take Back Event

The next Take Back event will be on March 18th at the Piggly Wiggly.

### Wellness Fair

Save the date: March 25th at Kelch Air Museum.

### Brodhead Night Out

The Brodhead Police Association has asked Better Brodhead to do the Brodhead Night Out event because they no longer have the staff to organize it. Alexis was given all the information for the event. There was a discussion about whether staff had the time to organize the event. Kathy said only if we have help from volunteers. It was agreed that Better Brodhead would be the host of Brodhead Night Out.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30pm

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