



Hybrid Coalition Meeting
Oct 19, 2021 5:00- 6:30

In Person: Bethlehem Lutheran Church 405 E 9th Ave, Brodhead

Virtual: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86554359896>

Summary

Attendance: Julie Taylor, Sue Pomatto, Stephanie Pinnow, Sabrina Meichtry, Megan Altfillisch, Dilcia Varela, [Katherine Kasmir](#), Kathy Comeau
Apologies: Chris Hughes, Peder Johanson, Jen Wichita

Welcome and Introductions: Julie led introductions and introduced our guest speaker. Katherine Kasmire from BRITEyouth.com from Ventura County California presented a video on how they have used Virtway gaming software to develop virtual environments to engage and educate youth on drug prevention and wellness activities. She described how this software could be used in the classroom or as a community activity after school. The virtual environments have portals so youth can go from one environment to another. Katherine said they were willing to collaborate with us by sharing their worlds. Their subscription costs are based on the number of participants, so initially she did not think there would be any cost to us as we explore the software and gauge youth interest. Katherine answered some questions from the group. It was felt that youth would be interested but it might be challenging to use this with adults. We agreed to discuss further and get back to Katherine.

Better Brodhead Staff will update the board on their activities

- Megan described developing the Vyond video on the topic of stigma. She also described how libraries were putting up book displays for coming out awareness. She developed a resource list for youth and took copies to each library.
 - Dilcia described her upcoming event and the need for volunteers, Dr Julio Rodriguez, Carlos Rivera, and a Pastor will present information on prescription drug misuse, addiction, and recovery. There will be food and games. Dilcia is expecting 100 people to attend. The Health Dept will be on hand to offer vaccinations.
 - Kathy described working on the evaluation report and organizing the Trunk or Treat event at Albrecht Elementary School on Oct 29th. Our trunk will be a giant gumball machine. Kathy will be dressed up as Willy Wonka, Megan will be dressed as a box of Nerds, Dilcia will be dressed as Jolly Ranchers. We have two more costumes if any board member wants to join us.
1. Consent Agenda Items (Budget & previous meeting notes)- There were no questions.
 2. Y2Y and SAFE Club Updates: No one from Y2Y or SAFE attended the meeting, so this item was tabled.
 - 3.
 4. Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities
 - a. Truck or Treat - Sue Pomatto agreed to help
 - b. Spanish Event -Julie agreed to help.
 - c. Volunteer Recruitment Committee: Stephanie agreed to chair, Megan will help.
 5. Ideas for the November billboard: Stephanie suggested that it should be a positive message.
 6. Any Other Business: there was no other business

Current Board Members

Julie Taylor - Chairperson
Peder Johanson - Vice Chair
Stephanie Pinnow - Treasurer
Jenifer Wichita - Board Member at Large
Chief Chris Hughes - Board Member at Large

There are several vacancies on the board - if interested please contact staff and request a board application.

Staff

Kathy Comeau - Program Director
Megan Altfillisch - Community Service Coordinator
Dilcia Varela- Bilingual Community Service Coordinator

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

Mission Statement: Better Brodhead engages and supports the community to reduce bullying, dating violence, and youth substance use.