



## Hybrid Coalition Meeting

Sept 21, 2021

5:15pm

**In Person:** Bethlehem Lutheran Church 405 E 9<sup>th</sup> Ave, Brodhead

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

### Summary

**Attendance:** July Taylor (Education), Sue Pomatto (Health), Alexis Speth (Youth), Peder Johanson (Faith), Stephanie Pinnow (Civic), Megan Altfillisch (staff), Dilcia Varela (staff), Kathy Comeau (staff)

**Apologies:** Jen Wichita (Education), Sabrina Meichtry (Parent)

1. Welcome and Introductions

Julie led brief introductions and Sue Pomatto was welcomed back.

2. Suicide Prevention signs

There is a suicide prevention initiative that we were encouraged to participate in by displaying 10 yard signs that have messages of encouragement. The yard signs were purchased but we have not received them yet. It was suggested that we could put them up across the front of the church or front yards with a lot of street frontage. There was a discussion about how many signs to put up at a time. It was felt that putting all the signs up at once would be too many and people would not read them all. It was agreed that putting up three signs would be enough and could be switched out for other signs after a period. Once we have the signs we will plan where to display them and for how long.

3. SWCAP COVID mandate update

President Biden's mandate that businesses that have 100+ employees require COVID 19 vaccinations. SWCAP has 140 employees, including Better Brodhead staff. Staff will be expected to be vaccinated or provide a weekly negative COVID 19 test. There will also be the option of applying for medical exemption. Currently OSHA is determining how this mandate will be implemented. Questions included: who bears the cost of COVID testing, and what test is used. This applies only to SWCAP staff and not Better Brodhead volunteers. The OSHA rules should be published in 2-4 weeks. We should know more by the next meeting.

4. Consent Agenda Items emailed prior to the meeting.

Julie asked if anyone had any questions. Peder asked about the unspent DFC funds and when the grant year ends.

Year 5 of the DFC grant ends on Sept 29th. Since we have been awarded the DFC grant for years 6-10, we do not have a no cost extension for the underspend, which may be around \$30k. It is unclear at this time whether those funds will be added on to the end of the grant (year 10) or taken back. Once we start Year 6, Kathy will meet with the Grants Management Specialist to find out what will happen to that funding.

5. Updates

a. DFC Activities

- i. What is Prevention news articles- Megan shared the ads that will be going in both newspapers over the course of 4 weeks. Each ad is entitled "Some things are really preventable" and shows images of two 'soft' preventable things with the third image portraying our intended prevention message.
- ii. Small Talks- Megan showed the animated video she created for Small Talks that will be published on the website and Facebook. Dilcia distributed Small Talks posters around town. Stephanie mentioned that she saw the posters in town.

*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.*

- iii. 2 RX Take Back events took place last week at the Monroe and New Glarus Farmers Market. The New Glarus police said that they took in 12lbs of raw prescription medications from the event. Megan was going to reach out to the Monroe Police Dept. to find out the weight of medications they got at the Monroe event. Megan said she felt the New Glarus event was more successful because it was later in the day rather than midday. The New Glarus police said they were willing to partner with us in the future for another take back event.  
There was a discussion about why there is so much left-over medication and prescribing practices. Megan said that some people were disposing of medication from a loved one that had died.
- b. STOP Act Activities
  - i. GSA Training: Megan said that the training was led by Brian J and attended by several GSA advisors. Brian J also did a presentation to GUPPY on how to provide a welcoming environment for LGBTQ+ students.
  - ii. Kathy mentioned that the WI legislature is discussing a piece of legislation (AB562) that would require schools to notify parents about anything in school related to sexual orientation or gender identity. There was some discussion about what this would mean for school GSAs. Would this affect after school clubs? Although there were some differences in opinion on the extent that parents need to be informed about school topics, it was recognized that this piece of legislation appears hostile towards LGBTQ+ youth. The Governor is expected to veto this legislation.
  - iii. Peder also mentioned that there is a movement, around the country, at the school level to ban teachers from displaying signage that is deemed political. This includes rainbow signs, and Black Lives Matter signs. These signs have been used by teachers to signal to students that this teacher is 'safe'. Removing these signs is detrimental to vulnerable students.
- c. CARA Activities
  - i. Flyers distributed- Dilcia showed the flyers that she created in Spanish on the safe storage and disposal of prescription medications. She distributed these with the help of Karin Krimmer from the Green County Literacy Council.
  - ii. Spanish Facebook page- Dilcia has received lots of messages from people through the new Spanish Facebook page, and by phone. She has been using her personal phone. She is getting a lot of calls for referral for services for drug, mental health, and housing issues. There was a discussion that a business phone should be purchased for Dilcia to use, and she should only be taking work calls during work hours. There is also the liability issue - and a recorded message should be on the phone with a message to phone 911 for emergencies. Kathy said she would talk to Dilcia about setting boundaries, so Dilcia is not put at risk.
  - iii. Spanish Podcast- Dilcia is working with Peder to create a podcast in Spanish.
- d. Youth Activities
  - i. Brat Stand- Alexis described the activity and said it was very successful. Stephanie mentioned that the proceeds were \$337.66
  - ii. Pizza Night- Alexis helped Y2Y with this activity. She said that 95 students attended, and it was a success.

6. Match update: You are Awesome! We met our Match! Exceeded by almost \$7000!

7. Upcoming Activities and Volunteer Opportunities (15 min)

- a. Alexis volunteered to stuff medication Lock Boxes with our information. Thank you, Alexis!
- b. Small Talks Yard Signs

There was a discussion about how to get signs put up around town. It was suggested that we should try to get them up on the parade route for the Homecoming Parade. Another suggestion was to ask Y2Y to showcase the signs on a Float unless they already have other plans. Stephanie said she could coordinate with Jen Wichita to distribute signs to Y2Y students at the end of the school day.

*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.*

Actions: Goal is to have signs up before the parade on Oct 1st  
Kathy will contact Jen to determine if Y2Y will be in the parade  
Kathy will contact Trey Carpenter to do an email blast to businesses to display yard signs. Julie will help distribute signs.

8. Any Other Business

There was no other business to discuss

Meeting adjourned at 6:20

**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