

MINUTES: Alcohol Task Force 9/10/19
BOCES Room 148 12 - 1 pm

Present:

Marlene Bauman, SCSO
Robin Carnes, SCPH
Donna Steele, Boulder Bar
John Kelly, SPC Chair

Robert Galbreath, Sublette papers
Phil Vrska, Business Owner
Trisha Scott, SCPH

Agenda Items:

1. Request vendors give input on Pinedale town alcohol permit, what is working, what is not working, are wristbands appropriate, what would vendors want to see when the town revises the permit?

Discussion: Review of Wind River Brewfest event ID scanning and banding station from Robin and Trisha. Current ID scanners purchased by the prevention grant (the “minor decliner”) were cumbersome to use and took too much time to reset between readings, creating long lines for entry into brewfest. Discussion followed about the town permit directive to card every alcohol purchase, is that reasonable and necessary? Those present agreed it is not necessary.

Use of wristbands at Brewfest was quick and easy, with no complaints from the 650 patrons. Donna and Country Lane (Country Lane sent their comments through email, they could not attend this meeting) both would support the use of wristbands at public events, if there was good signage directing patrons to a wristband station, and if they did not have to staff the station. The prevention grant can purchase and supply all wristbands, cups, and ID scanners for events.

Donna from the Boulder Bar reported that most drinkers at events in the park are drinking 1 - 3 beers over 3 hours, problems arise from people bringing their own coolers with hard alcohol, bringing glass bottles that become a safety hazard, and parents buying alcohol for their teens.

Discussion over Donna’s question: Are business owners being singled out for prevention strategies when more alcohol problems come from parents giving alcohol to kids, and older kids buy for younger kids? John Kelly responded that the grant specifies that while we find some guidelines for special events, we are also focused on pathways to slowly change perceptions around youth alcohol use, which is a slow “cultural” (said Robin) change. Wristbands at least send a visual signal to youth and adults that you must be 21 to consume alcohol, even if there is no active enforcement at events in the park.

On mandatory server training: Both Country Lane and Donna stated that they were not in favor of mandatory server training. Phil Vrska, business owner who participates in park events (and was drafted into the discussion from his para job at Skyline) thought mandatory server training a good idea. Recommendations from the meeting:

Recommend: Amend item 1 on the alcohol permit to reflect the Wyoming Liquor Division guideline to check the ID of every patron who appears under the age of 30.

Recommend: Town include use of wristbands at public events on town permit if there is a way to staff wristband stations.

Recommend: Town Council discuss the pluses and minuses of restricting people bringing their own coolers.

Recommend: Ban glass at public events. The Wyoming Liquor Division, Wyoming Association of Sheriffs and Chiefs of Police (WASCOP) , and Wyoming Dept of Health (WDH) all recommend this on the community event checklist. Banning both glass and cans are recommended on that checklist.

Next steps: Trisha will send meeting minutes out and include Mayor Murdock. Trisha will request meeting with Mayor Murdock and invite co chairs and Donna and Country Lane to meeting to present recommendations to the town council before October, when the town council will review and possibly revise the permit application.

Next meeting scheduled for December 10.

1:05: Adjourn formal meeting.