

The Partnership

Campus and Community united against dangerous drinking

Meeting Minutes **Wednesday, December 6, 2023 | 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.** **State College Municipal Building, Room 201, University Park**

Co-Chairs: Andrea Dowhower and Tom Fountaine

Members Present: Corinne Dinoski (remote), John Gardner, Chris Hickey, Kristen Holzwarth, Dave Jordan, Thomas King (remote), Jesse Kolb, Katy Larkin, Linda LaSalle, Denise McCann, Julian Morales, Kyle Quinn, Danny Shaha, Jeff Sorg, Brandi Stuart, Eric White, Matthew Winslow

Guests Present: Rachel Rito | Asst. Athletic Director for Football Operations & Events

Athletics Alcohol Task Force and alcohol sales at Beaver Stadium (Rachel Rito).

- Overview of alcohol sales at Beaver Stadium:
 - Started in the 2022 season and continued in 2023 season.
 - Sales begin when gates open two hours prior to kickoff.
 - Sales end at the conclusion of the third quarter.
 - Individuals can purchase up to two drinks per transaction.
 - No wine or liquor is sold.
 - Craft beer and hard cider were added this year.
 - ID must be provided at every point of sale, and a wristband is provided once the ID is checked.
 - ID is still checked at point of sale when the individual has a wristband.
- Other Penn State venues that sell alcohol during sports events:
 - The Bryce Jordan Center now sells alcohol during Penn State basketball games.
 - Medlar Field and Pegula Ice Arena may begin alcohol sales in the future.
- 2023 Football Season – Alcohol Task Force Data:
 - Data tracks the number of stadium ejections, total Emergency Medical Service (EMS) calls, and total EMS calls related to alcohol on a per-game basis.
 - Data does not include EMS calls at tailgates outside the stadium or volume of alcohol sales.
 - Night games typically have a higher impact due to all-day tailgating.
 - The Iowa white-out game had the highest number of total EMS calls and alcohol-related EMS calls.
 - White-out games typically have higher attendance and impact.
 - Additional suggestions for data tracking include:

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- Actual attendance versus ticket sales.
- Weather.
- White-outs, homecomings, and other games with a special theme.

Breakout Session 1: Discuss The Partnership's mission and vision.

Breakout Session 2: Discuss high-risk events.

- Breakout sessions were combined. See attached discussion questions.
 - Breakout group facilitators will summarize comments and share with co-chairs.

Subcommittee sign-up and assignments.

- A sign-up sheet was passed to group members attending in-person, and Linda LaSalle sent a follow-up email to other members with a sign-up request.
 - Each subcommittee will have at least one designated chairperson.
 - Individuals are permitted to serve on more than one subcommittee.
 - Groups may be adjusted and balanced based on need.
 - Subcommittees should expect to meet in January.
- Subcommittees and initial areas of focus:
 - Education:
 - Explore innovative ways for health communication messages to reach intended audiences.
 - Focus on education in relation to enforcement and high-risk events.
 - Enforcement:
 - Policing on University Park campus and in State College borough:
 - Penn State Student Code of Conduct.
 - State College Borough Ordinances.
 - High-Risk Events:
 - State Patty's Day, Halloween, and other holidays.
 - Football events:
 - Tailgating, white-out games, homecoming, etc.
 - Downtown pub crawls.
 - Arrival (move-in) weekend.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 7, 2024, from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. at the State College Municipal Building in Room 201 (Community / All-Purpose Room).

1. **Breakout discussion about mission & vision statements**

Vision: The Centre Region will be a Community where everyone affirms healthy choices, civility, and social responsibility.

Mission: To educate and support various sectors of the Centre Region as they work to change the Penn State and Community culture to reduce the high-risk behavior that can accompany the consumption of alcohol.

Discussion Questions

1. What changes should be made to the vision statement?
2. What changes should be made to the mission statement?
3. Should the mission statement be altered to encompass drug use? If so, how?
 - a. Should there be a focus on risky recreational drug use or cannabis, specifically?

2. **Breakout discussion about high-risk events**

1. What are the high-risk events for State College & Penn State?
(examples: State Patty's Day, Arrival Weekend, Tailgating, Halloween)
2. What makes these events high risk? What are the concerns for Penn State and State College?
3. What strategies can be put into place to mitigate the impact of these events?
 - a. Educational strategies
 - b. Alternative activities
 - c. Communication to students & community members
 - d. Enforcement
 - e. Other