

The Partnership

Campus and Community united against dangerous drinking

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 7, 2024 | 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
State College Municipal Building, Room 220, State College

Co-Chairs: Andrea Dowhower, Tom Fountaine

Subcommittee Chairs: Tom King (co-chair: High-Risk Events), Linda LaSalle (Education), Danny Shaha (co-chair: High-Risk Events)

Members Present: John Gardner, Chris Hickey, Kristen Holzwarth, Adam Hoover, Dave Jordan, Jesse Kolb, Katy Larkin, Julian Morales, Cierra Olsen, Arron Ort, Nora O'Toole, Kyle Quinn, Eric White, Matthew Winslow

Subcommittee updates:

- The Enforcement subcommittee has been merged with High-Risk Events.
- High-Risk Events subcommittee update:
 - State Patty's Day weekend – February 24th & 25th:
 - The subcommittee has modeled its State Patty's Day efforts on past initiatives with the goal of reducing negative outcomes of the event without advertising the event.
 - Current initiatives include:
 - Asking Residence Life and the Association of Residence Hall Students to limit the number of guests in residence halls.
 - Sending a letter to community landlords and residents outlining our efforts and offices involved (see pages 3-4).
 - Encouraging Penn State's Panhellenic Council (PHC) and Interfraternity Council (IFC) to limit registered social events:
 - PHC and IFC leaders are considering the request.
 - Unregistered events will be discouraged.
 - Sending a letter to Tavern Association members encouraging normal operations.
 - Asking State College Borough to consider implementing home football parking rates and disallowing overnight parking to discourage out-of-town visitors.
 - Asking State College Police and University Park Police to have a heightened police presence.

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- Future events to consider:
 - March 8, 2024: Dropkick Murphys at Bryce Jordan Center.
 - March 12, 2024: Zack Bryan at Bryce Jordan Center.
 - March 31, 2024: Drake at Bryce Jordan Center.
 - April 13, 2024: Penn State Blue & White Game at Beaver Stadium.
 - April 26, 2024: Movin' On at Intramural Fields.
 - April 27, 2024: Luke Combs at Beaver Stadium.
 - End of April: Pub Crawl organized through LineLeap.
 - May 11, 2024: Hoppy Valley Brewers Fest at Beaver Stadium.
- Education subcommittee update:
 - Risk reduction messages for February 2024 (see pages 5-7):
 - Areas of distribution include HUB-Robeson Center posters and bathroom stalls, Residence Life bathroom stalls, paid social media messaging, and Daily Collegian advertisement.
 - Posters and messages are based on student input and harm reduction strategies.
 - Student Affairs Marketing & Communications office is assisting.
 - Applying for 2024-2026 Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board grant.
 - Health Promotion and Wellness will apply for a grant to develop a student-driven alcohol and cannabis harm reduction campaign.

Changes to The Partnership's Vision and Mission Statements will be further explored in upcoming weeks.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 3, 2024, from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. at the HUB-Robeson Center, Room 134.



Borough of State College
"A Home Rule Municipality"

STATE COLLEGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Phone 814-234-7150
Fax 814-231-3070

243 South Allen Street
State College, PA 16801
www.statecollegepa.us
police@statecollegepa.us

JOHN F. GARDNER
Chief of Police



February 20, 2024

Dear Resident,

We are writing for your assistance and cooperation with a very important matter to the State College/Penn State community. In past years, the weekend between THON and Spring Break has been a challenge, resulting in more crime, more criminal arrests, and more alcohol overdoses than a typical winter weekend.

Many who engaged in excessive drinking were from out of town and were visiting students and residents living in State College. As a result, we had many problems with the number and severity of alcohol violations, noise complaints, vandalism, and fights in apartment buildings and through the community during this particular weekend.

As tenants, we are seeking your assistance in helping keep this weekend safe and peaceful. You play a critical role. Some of the ways in which you can help include:

- Limit the number of guests to your apartment or house this weekend;
- Prevent guests from yelling or throwing items off your balcony or from your house;
- Do not permit anyone less than 21 years of age to consume alcohol at your apartment or house. You can be arrested if anyone under 21 years old consumes alcohol at your apartment or house;
- Do not serve large quantities of alcohol at your apartment or house;
- Keep any music or other noise in your residence at reasonable levels. Noise violations will be strictly enforced all hours of the day and night. The minimum fine for a noise violation is \$750.00 plus court costs.
- Ensure the exterior of your property is free of litter or trash, such as plastic cups, beer cans, food containers, etc.

The State College Police Department will be working with surrounding local police departments, to provide a substantial police presence. All officers will assertively patrol for violations of the law. During the weekend, officers will focus enforcement on apartment buildings and other rental properties in the downtown and the adjacent neighborhoods. Some police officers will be working uniformed patrols details, while others will be working in plain clothes.

In addition, the State College Police Department will be working closely with your rental property managers and their staff. Many rental property owners or managers will have extra staff patrolling the apartment hallways. Disorderly conduct and other unlawful activities in apartments or houses will be reported to the State College Police Department and strictly enforced. Police officers will also be patrolling your apartment building during this weekend, checking for underage drinking, furnishing alcohol to minors, disorderly conduct, and other crimes.

Property managers and tenants are encouraged to contact the police for assistance in dealing with unruly parties or other illegal acts. These self-report violations are not counted as violations under the Nuisance Property Ordinance.

As we do throughout the year, we are also partnering with Penn State's Office of Student Conduct (OSC) for this event. For all Penn State students charged with any criminal violation, such as noise violation,

disorderly conduct, underage drinking, public drunkenness, etc., we will also provide the information to the OSC. Because Penn State's Code of Conduct applies off-campus as well as on-campus, OSC will pursue appropriate disciplinary actions with students who are cited or arrested during this weekend.

We are advising you of these concerns now, with hopes that you will refrain from engaging in behaviors that violate the law or University policy, restrict visitors to your apartment or homes this weekend and join your friends and neighbors in helping maintain a safe and peaceful atmosphere throughout the weekend.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation and assistance.

Sincerely,

Chief John F. Gardner
State College Police Department

Deputy Chief Jason Zajac
Penn State Police Department

Danny Shaha
PSU Asst. V.P. for Student Affairs

**WORRIED YOUR DRINKING
MIGHT CAUSE YOU TROUBLE?**

**INTENTIONALLY DECIDE
TO TAKE IT EASY**



This program is made possible through a grant funded by the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board. The opinions and statements expressed in this advertisement do not necessarily represent the views of the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board.

**WORRIED ABOUT BEING
A SLOPPY DRUNK?**



**AVOID TRYING TO
KEEP UP WITH OTHERS**



PennState
Student Affairs

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CALL 911 YOU MAY SAVE A LIFE



If I'm under 21 and have been drinking, will I get in trouble if I call 911 to get help for someone who is passed out from consuming too much alcohol?

Source:
Penn State Office Of Student Conduct,
studentaffairs.psu.edu/conduct
Timothy J. Piazza Antihazing Law,
legis.state.pa.us/

You will **NOT** face **University Conduct Action** or **legal action** for use or possession of alcohol or drugs if you:

- Notify the appropriate authorities (911, police, campus security, resident assistant)
- Believe you are the first caller
- Provide your name
- Stay with the person until authorities arrive

What if I am the person who needs help?

The law protects you too. If you call or if a student calls on your behalf, you will not face University conduct action or legal action for the use or possession of alcohol.



ALCOHOL POISONING IS A MEDICAL EMERGENCY

KNOW THE SIGNS

- Passed out/difficult to wake
- Cold, clammy, bluish skin
- Slowed breathing
- Vomiting



HOW TO HELP

- Turn a vomiting person on their side to prevent choking
- Clear vomit from mouth
- Keep person awake
- Never leave the person unattended



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