

**Princeton Alcohol and Drug Alliance**  
**Regular Meeting by videoconference**  
**November 3, 2022**  
**APPROVED Minutes**

Open Meeting – Notice of this meeting was published on the municipal website.

Attendance:

- Josie Baranski (Princeton Day School)
- Chris Burkmar (Princeton University)
- Frank Chmiel (Princeton High School)
- Dave Errickson (Alliance Coordinator)
- Sara Gardiner (Mercer County Alliance – MCADA)
- Tracy Kindelsperger (Corner House staff)
- Riva Levy (Corner House staff)
- Diana Lygas (Princeton High School)
- Alexander Moravcsik (Inter-Club Council)
- Leighton Newlin (Princeton Council)
- Kennedy Peck (Corner House Student Board – Princeton High School)
- Denise Spivey (Corner House staff)

- I. Call to Order: Alliance Coordinator Dave Errickson called the meeting to order at 12:04 PM.
- II. Introductions: All present introduced themselves and their role. The Alliance welcomed Frank Chmiel, Princeton High School Principal; Abigail Kalmbach, who has applied to be a community member of the PADA; Josie Baranski of the Corner House Student Board, and Alex Moravcsik of the Inter-Club Council at Princeton University (and proud PHS alum).
- III. Agenda – No changes were made to the distributed agenda.
- IV. The minutes of the October 6, 2022 minutes were approved as distributed. Motion Diana Lygas, second Riva Levy, approved by show of hands.
- V. Alliance Coordinator – Dave Errickson
  - a. Dave has been researching the Alliance’s history and reported the Governor’s Council on Alcohol & Drug Abuse was created in 1989. He shared the January 7, 1991 resolution from Princeton Township and Princeton Borough that created the Princeton Alcohol & Drug Alliance, highlighting the breadth of community representation that is welcome on the Alliance. The PADA was the governing board for Corner House until 2006, when the PADA was reconstituted as the Municipal Alliance for the Borough and the Township, and the Corner House Board was constituted to align Corner House with other municipal departments.
  - b. Now, as the community emerges from the COVID pandemic, Corner House staff have been discussing how to work in and educate the community. Dave encouraged the Alliance to think about what its role in community outreach and education can be. It is not necessary to scare people, but accurate information is important.
- VI. School Representatives:
  - a. Princeton High School – Frank Chmiel reported drugs are an issue at PHS. Students have the funds to purchase drugs for themselves and their friends. The availability of THC products that don’t have the odor of a joint makes them more accessible. Students and families are realizing that THC levels are more concentrated, people do become addicted, and their families are upset. Frank suggested a PTO meeting could be

dedicated to the issue of THC. He appreciates the input from Corner House students and the PHS Student Advisory Board; they tell him how to reach students.

Representatives from Princeton Day School, Stuart Country Day School, and the Hun School were not available today.

- VII. Princeton Public Library – No representative was available today.
- VIII. Princeton University
  - a. Alexander Moravcsik reported that students are available to help affected students with escorts. They
  - b. Chris Burkmar noted there have been recent losses in the Princeton University community, following the recent death of a staff member and a student. The University has been focused on caring for one another and attending to mental health. Chris noted the academic calendar has changed so students will now complete exams in December.
- IX. Princeton Council Liaison – Leighton Newlin expressed appreciation for Principal Chmiel's comments. Council Member Newlin appreciates the Corner House Outreach coordinators who work with the high school students, as well as the other staff. He was also able to highlight Corner House's community work during the announcement period of a recent Council meeting and looks forward to being able to do that again.
- X. Law Enforcement – Ptl. Courtney Navas was not available, but Dave Errickson reported the Princeton Police will be fielding a team at Friday's All-City Dodgeball Tournament, as well as sponsoring the tournament financially.
- XI. Corner House Student Programs
  - a. Josie Baranski reported the Student Board is working on the Dodgeball Tournament, as well as a Parent's Night presentation on drugs and alcohol and their connection to mental health.
  - b. Kennedy Peck reported the students are creating presentations to help other students understand that drug and alcohol use is often a response to mental illness. The students are encouraging self-care practices as a more appropriate response to feeling down or stressed.
  - c. Riva Levy reported the Teen Access Group (TAG) and Growing Up Accepted as an Individual in America (GAIA) are scheduling their workshops for community public and private schools.
- XII. Outreach – Denise Spivey reported that signs in student restrooms share community resources. It's helpful to see them at the Princeton Middle School, but it also highlights the fact that substances are accessible even to middle schoolers. Denise also noted that Outreach students are often involved in athletics, which encourages them to stay clean. They recently gathered the parents of Outreach students for a light supper and information session, with a good turnout.

- XIII. Corner House Foundation – Tracy Kindelsperger reported the Annual Report to the Community will be distributed in a few weeks. Anyone who knows of someone who would benefit from a copy is welcome to share the name and contact information with Tracy.
- XIV. Board of Health – No representative was available today.
- XV. Old Business – none.
- XVI. New Business
  - a. Dave Errickson asked the Alliance to consider what impactful events we can sponsor for community education.
  - b. Dave also noted adolescents as young as 13 years of age can seek substance abuse treatment without parental permission in New Jersey, but they do need parental permission to seek mental health treatment.
  - c. Public Comment – none offered.

The Alliance adjourned at 12:42 PM. Motion \_\_\_\_, second \_\_\_\_, approved by a show of hands.

Next Meeting: December 1, 2022, via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Woodman, Secretary to the PADA.

Minutes approved December 2, 2022.