



**Weed and Seed AID Team**  
**10/19/09**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Attendees:** Gail Mitchell Hall (Site Coordinator-Wilkinsburg Weed and Seed), Winford Craig (Chair of AID Team, Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh), Owen McAfee (Chief-Wilkinsburg Fire Department), Bernadette Turner (Addison Behavioral Care, Inc.), Fran Carter (Addison Behavioral Care, Inc.), William Anders (L.A.M.S. Charter School), Andre Tucker (L.A.M.S. Charter School), Rev. Richard A. Payne (Wilkinsburg Ministerial Association), Elaine Burns (PA Weed and Seed Site Liaison), Sgt. Wayne McKenith (Wilkinsburg Police Department), Barbara Witherspoon (Grandparents Raising Grandchildren), George Spencer (GPA Mad Dads), Marcy Morse (PHDA, Inc.), Greg Whitted (PHDA, Inc.), Bea Webb (Boys & Girls Club), Roger Baker (A.N.D. S.T.E.P.), Marie Cleveland (Allegheny County DHS OBH), Chief Ophelia Coleman (Wilkinsburg Police Department), Minister Linda Kirkland-Law (WCDC, Wilkinsburg Sun), Jennifer Matich (Wilkinsburg Community Ministries), Ann Greider (Wilkinsburg Community Ministries), LaChele Banks (Hosanna House), Al Merritt (GPA Mad Dads & Hosanna House), Darla DiGiovanni (Two Steps Forward, Boys Scouts, Gr. Pgh), Robin Horston Spencer (Message Carriers of PA, Inc.), Jean Paige (Childrens Hosp. of Pgh Family Care Connection), James Tierney (Allegheny County District Attorneys Office), Joel Segel (Allegheny County Economic Development), Tracey Evans (Borough Council & Rep. Joseph Preston office), John Irwin (Wilkinsburg Chamber of Commerce), Skip Bowyer (Block Watch Coordinator, GPA Mad Dads), Margaret Self (Selfinc), Tyrone S. Self (DESI-Job Corps), Kate Grannemann (Community Ambassador), Lynn Knezevich (Gwen's Girls), Leah Thomas (A Woman's Touch Fashion), Kicole Watson (Abraxas), Melanie Hall (Operations Manager, DPW and Code Enforcement), Dr. Marty Seltman (Metro Family Practice), Harold Young (Jazz Workshop, Inc.), Laura Meadows (Alpha & Omega Community Gardens), James B. Richard (Resident), Debra Luster (Alpha & Omega Community Gardens), Mary Jo Guercio (CCAC), Stephanie Clark (Addison Behavioral Care, Inc.),

**Call to Order**

Mr. Craig, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at approximately 12:06 p.m. in Room 420 of Hosanna House, Wilkinsburg PA.

Roll call was taken by Ms. Mitchell Hall to establish a quorum

**In attendance:** Chief Ophelia Coleman, Winford Craig, Linda Law, Chief Owen McAfee, Marcy Morse, Rev. Richard Payne, Dr. Marty Seltman, George Spencer, Mayor John Thompson, Barbara Witherspoon.

**Absent:** Trooper Brian Arrington, Josie Bryant

Introduction of all AID Team members.

**Discussion:**

All voting members in attendance approved the Minutes from September 2009 meeting.

Ms. Turner provides a brief about a surveys being given out by Addison Behavioral Care (ABC) and The Board of Drug and Alcohol Prevention (BDAP) in conjunction with Allegheny County as part of a needs assessment. The surveys were e-mailed to AID Team members. The surveys are for community participants and will give insight as to what prevention services are needed in the Wilksburg Area.

Ms. Mitchell Hall states to Team members that completing these surveys would ensure that Wilksburg has a voice in this assessment. The surveys need to be filled out by 10/30/2009 and would help the county to build a specific plan geared towards drug and alcohol prevention.

Mr. Craig asked who had ever participated in writing a grant. These members were then asked to be part of the Grant Review Committee. The committee would be investigating stimulus money and alternative funding to see if Weed and Seed would qualify for any the grants, and then apply for them.

Mr. Craig expressed the importance of the sub-committees to have a hard copy report done and handed into Ms. Mitchell Hall by the fifth of each month.

Mr. Spencer, Chair of Law Enforcement/Community Policing subcommittee provided the AID team with a report of the activities of the Law Enforcement subcommittee meeting that was held on October 19, 2009 at 10:30 a.m. Next meeting scheduled for November 16, 2009 at the Hosanna House- room 420 *before regular monthly AID Team meeting.*

Ms. Linda Law, Chair of Neighborhood Restoration subcommittee provided the AID Team with a report of activities of Neighborhood Restoration subcommittee meeting that was held on October 12, 2009. Next meeting is scheduled for November 9, 2009 at the Hosanna House, room 420.

Ms. Bernadette Turner, Chair of Prevention/Intervention and Treatment subcommittee provided the AID Team with a report of activities of the Prevention/Intervention and Treatment subcommittee meeting that was held on October 19, 2009. Next meeting is scheduled for November 9, 2009 at 11:30 at Addison Behavioral Care, 905 West Street, Wilksburg.

Ms. Burns, the State Liaison offered to give training to subcommittee Chairs, and Co-Chairs and any other members in order to make sure each subcommittee remains on the right path according to items set in the Revitalization Plan. No date set.

Ms. Mitchell Hall reminds members of the importance of the sign-in sheet. She then makes sure that all in the group have a copy of the mission and vision statement in order to remain focused. The current mission and vision statement has been approved by the State.

Job Corps, Gwen's Girls, Abraxas, and a local caroling initiative gave brief overviews about their services.

Ms. Gail Mitchell took collection for future lunches for AID Team meetings.

A sign-up sheet was handed out for the Grant Review Committee.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None

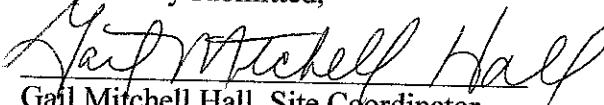
**NEW BUSINESS:**

Any suggested revisions to the Revitalization Plan should be e-mailed to Gail. Subcommittees must have reports into Gail by the fifth of each month.

Mr. Craig asks if there are any questions and advised that the next AID Team meeting would meet on November 16, 2009.

Being no further business, a motion was made and a second followed to adjourn the meeting at approximately 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Gail Mitchell Hall, Site Coordinator