



YARRA DRUG AND HEALTH FORUM MEETING - MINUTES

MONDAY, June 6th 2011

Meeting held 12.30pm-2pm at:

**Fitzroy Town Hall
The Reading Room
201 Napier Street
(corner of Condell Street)
Fitzroy**

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:

Acting Chairperson: Vera Boston (NYCH), Greg Denham (YDHF), Dom Ennis (YSAS), Anne Parkes (Odyssey), Susan Gulko (CoY), Patrick Griffiths (ANEX), Meghan Fitzgerald (FLS), Laura McPhee-Brown (Hanover), Michael Naismith (TOE-JSS), Samuel De Silva (Good Shepherd), Barbara Taylor (DoH), Maureen Chester (DoH), Meghan Becke (YSAS), Nick Thomson (UoM), Sharon Shaw (BSL), Kerrie Felemonow (TWH), Stewart Park (Salvos), Geraldine Hourigan (Good Shepherd), Alison Clarke (CoY), Janette Berry (NJC), Dave Taylor (VAADA), Michelle Aung Thien (resident), Christine Hatzianestis (Centrelink), Mark Power (CoY), Jo-ann Stenton (ECCU DTF), Alex Tsiliris (JSS), Jinesh Wilmot (NRCH), Nicole Turner (UoM)

2. APOLOGIES:

Peter Wearne (YSAS), Sandra Fox (NRCH), Kevan Myers (SVHM), Nicole Hallahan (WRHC), Shirley Lancey (NMIT), Paul Kent (HG), Bernie Lane (DoH), Danny Jeffcott (NYCH), Eddie Micallef (ECCV), Morgan Scholze (NJC), Pier Moro (HCV), Carolyn Picket (BSL), John Fitzgerald (VicHealth), Amy Kirwan (Burnet), Cerissa Papanastasiou (Burnet), Margaret Hamilton (UoM)

3. ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

The previous minutes were accepted.

PRESENTATION: 'Law Enforcement & Harm Reduction Network'

Nicole Turner - **Coordinator, Law Enforcement & Harm Reduction Network**
Nossal Institute for Global Health - University of Melbourne

'The Nossal Institute for Global Health is currently undertaking a project that seeks to strengthen the relationship between law enforcement agencies and public health workers to address the harms associated with injecting drug use.'

A community based response to alcohol and other drug issues

Yarra Drug & Health Forum
4 Johnston Street, Collingwood, 3066
Phone: 9468 2819 Fax: 9417 1499 Mobile: 0439942856
Email: greg.denham@nych.org.au

Research has indicated that whilst there is increased understanding of the vital role police play as allies in supporting efforts to prevent the transmission of HIV and other diseases, there is still a significant gap in many parts of the world. Additionally, police and harm reduction services have often been reluctant to engage with each other due to misunderstanding about each others' role and purpose.

In order to address this communication gap and encourage a collaborative relationship between policing and public health, the Nossal Institute has established a global network be developed. The cornerstone of this network is a web-based resource known as LEAHRN.'

5. BUSINESS ARISING:

- YDHF looking to build speaker's bank over next year – register on-line at YDHF Website <http://www.ydhf.org.au/YDHF3.html>
The YDHF Website now has a link to enable people to register their interest in being part of Speakers' Bank that can be accessed by agencies and other interested groups when seeking experts for presentations etc.
Action: Executive Officer to promote speakers' bank through networking opportunities etc and report back where required.
- Eviction of Tenants from OoH residences
Executive Officer has spoken with OoH representative Kate Waite and further correspondence has been recommended with OoH senior staff at head office to identify suitable speaker.
Action: Executive Officer to follow up with OoH staff in order to identify suitable OoH representative to speak at a YDHF meeting.
- EO – DoH N&WMR AOD Plan .2 placement - update
Correspondence from DoH has been received indicating that the secondment of YDHF EO to the part time secretariat position was no longer feasible. Given this decision the EO will remain with YDHF under current arrangements.
- Meeting with Mary Wooldridge's D&A Advisor 27th May – Update on Forum June 21st (possible release of report on pharmacotherapies also)
Acting Chair reported that EC representatives had met with Ms Wooldridge's Drug and Alcohol Advisor Ms Christabelle Adjoyan and had briefed her and other DoH staff, including regional representative, on the YDHF Community Forum on June 21st. Discussions centred around content and logistical issues and general arrangements for this event. Ms Adjoyan advised that there was a likelihood that a report on pharmacotherapies would be released at this forum – further advice to be coming.
Action: Acting Chair to report back at next YDHF meeting on outcomes from YDHF Community Forum June 21st.

6. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT for information/discussion:

- Briefing to Council May 2nd
- Council meeting May 17th
- CoY Grants Scheme 2011 Application submitted
- Letter of thanks to Ms Isha Scott CoY

7. SUPERVISED INJECTING FACILITY WORKING GROUP UPDATE for information/discussion:

- Next meeting June 7th at NJC

- Media exposure
- Public meeting proposal - CoY

8. CURRENT NEWS, UPDATES AND DRUG USE PATTERNS:

9. OTHER BUSINESS:

- Election of Executive Committee
The Acting Chair reported that the Election of the Executive Committee for the Yarra Drug and Health Forum was overdue and that calls for nominations of the Chair and other positions on the Executive would commence before the end of this Financial Year. The criteria for selection was explained and the process of election. All details available on the YDHF website.
Action: EO to call for nominations for the position of Chair and other positions on the EC of YDHF. Nomination for Chair to be called for first via a nomination from available on-line through the YDHF website. Nominations close July 15th.

10. WORKER'S REPORT: (available on YDHF Website)

11. NEXT MEETING: 12.30pm Monday July 4th 2011:

**Fitzroy Town Hall
The Reading Room
201 Napier Street
(corner of Condell Street)
Fitzroy**

Guest Speakers: Local Member Mr Richard Wynne will speak about Opposition perspective on local and state-wide drug and alcohol policies.