

## ARCH COMMUNITY MEETING: MINUTES

DECEMBER 1, 2004, 8:30 – 10:00 AM

### IN ATTENDANCE:

B.Lyon	ARCH Chair, parent
T. Kenworthy	Director of Community Prevention Services, The COAD Group
J. Lemco	ARCH – school liaison, parent
E. Moeller	ARCH Co-Chair, ARCH Secretary, parent
L. Lenker	ARCH School/Community Partnership Committee Contact, parent
P. Littlewood	T/E School District, Coordinator of Community and Volunteer Services
B. Zerr	Upper Main Line YMCA
J. Hilly	ARCH –school liaison, parent
P. Clark	ARCH Youth Committee Contact, parent
L. Dalrymple	Parent
N. Adams	T/E School District, Assistant Principal, Conestoga High School
L. Koropey	ARCH Treasurer, parent
T. Vandekar	Parent
C. Bergsma	Parent
J. Hagy	ARCH Marketing Committee Contact, parent

The meeting was conducted by Bonnie Lyon, Chair, and was held in the ESC Building, Berwyn. Initially, the attendees sub-divided into working committees to conduct committee business. At 9:00 AM, the meeting reconvened as a whole to make committee reports to the group at large. Each Committee was asked to submit a written summary and written estimate of financial funding needs to the Secretary, however a brief overview of each committee report is given below.

### FINANCE COMMITTEE

- This committee wishes to begin to work on researching appropriate grants for which ARCH may apply. Organization history, mission, budget needs, and all pertinent documents will be pulled together to get ready for this process.
- The committee intends to look at how ARCH intends to ask for donations. The committee is considering a tear-off option at the bottom of printed party guidelines for use in sending donations.
- ARCH is presently recognized by The United Way and can receive funds when so designated through United Way.
- Each ARCH sub-committee is requested to submit estimated budget needs to the Finance Committee.

### SCHOOL/COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

- This committee hopes to explore enhanced community partnerships and disseminate informational resources through the following 2 efforts:
  1. Make information and resource materials available to coaches and booster clubs at high school and middle school levels. The committee seeks to have administrative buy-in. One proposal is to survey coaches and ask what they are presently doing, then create a template and assortment of topics that ARCH can make available to them

2. Set up Resource Centers at public places in the community for disseminating pamphlets, brochures, etc. Suggested locations are the YMCA, public and school libraries, hospitals, CARE Team, etc.

#### YOUTH COMMITTEE

The Youth Committee has met with student representatives of REACH, SADD, and TATU, have brainstormed ideas, and are planning a first event. The idea is to host a social get-together at the Upper Main Line YMCA for the purpose of allowing youth to gather and listen to local bands. It will be held on the Saturday evening (Jan. 29, 2005) following mid-term exams and will be titled something like "Midterm Madness." ARCH parents will chaperone. The committee goal is to seek to get a monthly activity going for kids, with the kids taking an active role in planning and arranging the activities. They may seek sponsors through pizza establishments and coffee purveyors to help with the costs.

#### MARKETING COMMITTEE

- This committee is proposing that ARCH pilot a neighborhood coffee, to encourage and enable neighborhood groups of parents to meet, talk, share concerns, strategies, support, and encouragement re: raising healthy, drug free youth. The idea would include preparing an agenda or "blueprint" for use by different neighborhoods throughout the community.
- New ARCH tag line, parent messages, ideas for decals, door hangars, cards, etc are all being explored.
- Members are looking at the Youth Survey Presentation (of 11/8/04) to determine what worked well and what improvements might enhance future presentations.
- Further explanation of this committee's ideas will be communicated through the committee minutes.

#### OTHER TOPICS

- ARCH does not presently have a database. The list of people who are on the ARCH email list who have expressed interest in being informed about ARCH activities is growing. One suggestion is to seek a high school student to help ARCH create a database as a culminating project for high school.
- Some employers "match" donations to community organizations- be aware if this might be an option with your employer.
- REACH students have traditionally partnered with middle school students to educate about REACH and drug free mentoring. Exploring REACH partnership with grade 4 (before the DARE Program in grade 5) may be considered.
- On December 9, Conestoga HS is hosting a speaker for seniors who will discuss transition to college life. In the spring, another speaker will talk to the other 3 grades, on age-appropriate topics.
- B. Lyon, E. Moeller, and T. Kenworthy will meet together to begin to draft an ARCH strategic plan.
- The high school underwent a Canine Sniff on November 19. No illicit substances were discovered.

- It is suggested that the anonymous, toll-free tip line, 1-877-345 TIPS be included in monthly newsletters.
- ARCH Bylaws stipulate officer elections yearly in May. ARCH intends to follow that course this year.
- T. Kenworthy mentioned a media literacy kit that ARCH might circulate that contains suggested activities related to watching the Super Bowl (and the beer commercials) to encourage youth to think critically about commercials, and to identify techniques that are used to target youth in these ads.

The meeting was adjourned after showing the Video *Drinking It In: Mixing Alcohol and Images and Kids*. The video is available to borrow from The COAD Group, Exton.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 AM. The next ARCH meeting is scheduled for January 5, 2005 at 8:30 AM at the ESC Building.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ellen Moeller  
ARCH Secretary

Addendum: The next Community ARCH Meeting has been rescheduled to Wednesday, January 12, 8:30 – 10:00 PM, ESC Building, Berwyn