Meeting Notes

Medical Amnesty Policy:

University perspective:

- Purdue signed an interim policy over the summer. It is aimed at encouraging students to make better decisions about calling for help/medical assistance when someone has consumed too much alcohol, and applies to the circumstance when the health and well-being of a student is in jeopardy.
- The policy relates to situations on campus or during campus-related activities. Student organizations may still face consequences.
- Students' status with the university is not in jeopardy if they get help. Exemptions will be for university discipline but not legal responsibilities.
- Over the past several years, Purdue police have not taken action against students who direct them to the problem, unless there is a felony or medical risk inherent with the student notifying police.
- Calling for help may still mean the student will be invited to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities (OSRR) for an educational conversation.
- The Student Wellness Office has “Make the Call” posters which encourage students to get help for their friends.

West Lafayette Police:

- WLPD does not get involved in the matters with the university. Every case is still documented. It goes to the county prosecutor, even if an arrest is not made.

Pat Harrington, Tippecanoe County Prosecutor:

- The person who makes the call is not prosecuted unless a larger offense is in play. The person who has caused the medical emergency will have a citation (versus Purdue’s policy gives amnesty to both the caller and the person causing the medical emergency). This has been the county policy for the past five years.
Jason Dombkowski, West Lafayette Police:

Football season:

The barricades will be out Friday morning through Sunday (although not for the first football game). Foot patrols with Purdue police will be in place Thursday through Saturday evening. The first year the barricades went up, an intoxicated driver ran into them, which prevented injury to pedestrians who were walking in the area.

Student safety:

We all have a responsibility to ensure patrons get home safely and he encouraged the bar staff to watch patrons as they leave their establishments. Patrons should leave with someone they know. Earlier this year, a person posed as a taxi driver/designated driver and a sexual assault occurred.

John Cox, Purdue Police:

He appreciates the media's involvement in getting the message out about pedestrian and bicycle safety issues as there aren't enough staff to regulate traffic flow. He asked bar owners if their staff could encourage patrons to use crosswalks and walk in well-lit areas.

Katy Travis, Drug-Free Coalition:

The Drug-Free Coalition and Purdue University have teamed up to offer Family Zone, a family-friendly parking area for tailgating before home football games this year. It is located at the front of the Gold Lot off of Third Street and McCormick, and will be available at all Purdue University home football games. Cost to park in the Gold Lot is $10.

Sanford Swanson, Indiana State Excise Police:

- They are seeing another increase in fake driver's licenses, particularly from Illinois but licenses from several other states are popular as well. He encouraged bar staff to do their homework. Even if fake licenses are well made, the establishment is not off the hook from liability.
- If staff members see an influx of fake licenses, excise police are available to come to an establishment and work with bar staff to identify fake licenses.
- Sometimes passports are presented in alcohol establishments. Bars have the discretion to decide what they will and will not accept.
- He reported that we are doing a much better job of asking for identification in West Lafayette than in other communities around the state.

Brett Highley, Purdue Student Government:

- They are receiving positive feedback about AlcoholEdu, the online alcohol education course.
- PSG will sponsor a tailgate at every home football game this year, which is located underneath the arch near Stadium and University. Brian Cardinal will attend the first event.
- They are working with other campuses around the state on a bill to address medical amnesty at the state level. So far, six other states have passed a similar bill.

Katie Wilkinson, Student Wellness Office:

Posters on sexual assault are available for campus and community partners. The “Flirting is not Consent” campaign has been very popular with students.

Michael Susong, City of West Lafayette engineer:

- A student complained about a local restaurant staff washing trash, grease, and cigarette butts into a storm sewer.
- Clean Water Act of 1972 is a Federal Mandate which relates to storm water practices, the EPA and Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) enforce the mandate.
- Dumpster juice is one form of pollution that could go into the storm sewers other examples are plastic bottles, grease, cans, and cigarette butts.
- Dumpster juice can be eliminated if servers dump out remaining drinks instead of throwing liquid away, or disposing of mop water in a sink or tub drain instead of down the street. Recyclers are available to take glass and aluminum which could also help to reduce waste disposal needs.
- Michael offered his services as a resource to local businesses to address this issue with the goal of preventing fines and helping to promote awareness of the issue of pollution into our storm sewers.