

Wisconsin Prevention Network
March 21, 2007
Minutes

Present: Ken Ramminger, Susan Rodriguez, Brenda Jennings, Karen Knudson, Julia Sherman, Sue Allen, Ronda Kopelke, Pamela Radcliffe, Mary Sprosty, Jennifer Koth, Chris Wardlow

I. Public Policy – Julia Sherman, Committee Chair

1. WCCF Lobby Day

- Brenda Jennings reported that Shel Gross participated and utilized the talking points developed by Julia Sherman. He met with Senator Decker, and Representatives Hebl, Parisi, Rhoades.
- Julia reported that WCCF estimated having about 100 participants, with most being first timers.

2. Beer Tax

- Julia reported that Representative Berceau will introduce her bill in April, which will raise the tax \$8 per barrel or \$.03 per drink. An early draft of the bill earmarked the revenue for prevention, treatment, law enforcement, and the general fund. The bill will be introduced as freestanding legislation initially with the hope that it will eventually be folded into the budget.
- Rep. Berceau's website has a PowerPoint presentation on the tax that people can use to educate themselves and others about the tax: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/assembly/asm76/news/Latest%20News.html>.
- Rep. Berceau would like representatives from supporting organizations, like WPN, to be in attendance at the press conference in April when the bill is introduced. Chris Wardlow is planning on attending if his schedule permits.
- Rep. Berceau has heard from folks across the state who support the tax. While she appreciates this, she needs folks to contact their own legislators to get them to back the measure.

3. Other Alcohol-Related Issues

- Assembly Bill 196 was introduced by Introduced by Representatives BIES, MOULTON, MONTGOMERY, KERKMAN, LEMAHIEU, JESKEWITZ, MURSAU, AND OTT.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, with certain exceptions, a person who has not reached the legal drinking age of 21 years (underage person), and who is not accompanied by his or her parent, guardian, or spouse who has reached the legal drinking age, may not knowingly possess or consume alcohol beverages and may not enter or be on any premises for which a license or permit for the retail sale of alcohol beverages has been issued. No person (including a licensee or permittee) may procure for, sell, dispense, or give away alcohol beverages to an underage person who is not accompanied by his or her parent, guardian, or spouse who has reached the legal drinking age. If a person procures alcohol beverages for or sells, dispenses, or gives away alcohol beverages (provider) to a person under 18 years of age (minor) in violation of these prohibitions, and the provider knew or should have known that the minor was under the legal drinking age, the provider is guilty of a Class H felony if the minor suffers great bodily harm, and is guilty of a Class G felony if the minor dies, as a result of consuming the alcohol beverages provided. A Class H felony is punishable by a fine of not more than \$10,000 or a term of imprisonment of up to six years or both. A Class G felony is punishable by a fine of not more than \$25,000 or a term of imprisonment of up to ten years or both.

This bill applies these penalties to a provider with respect to any underage person, including an underage person who is 18, 19, or 20 years of age.

- Senate Bill 102 - Introduced by Senators KREITLOW, SCHULTZ and GROTHMAN, cosponsored by Representatives WOOD, MOULTON, BERCEAU, BALLWEG, GUNDERSON, HAHN, MURSAU and MURTHA.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, a person who has not reached the legal drinking age of 21 years of age (underage person), and who is not accompanied by his or her parent, guardian, or spouse who has attained the legal drinking age, may not enter or be on any premises for which a license or permit for the retail sale of alcohol beverages has been issued. Current law also provides for various exceptions to this prohibition.

This bill creates an exception to this prohibition for premises for which a license is issued to the Wisconsin Renaissance Faire in Chippewa Falls.

- Assembly Bill 122 - Introduced by Representatives NEWCOMER, FIELDS, YOUNG, ALBERS, BERCEAU, GRIGSBY, HAHN, HINES, HONADEL, JESKEWITZ, KESSLER, KRAMER, F. LASEE, MOLEPSKE, MURSAU, MURTHA, MUSSER, NYGREN, A. OTT, POCAN, PRIDEMORE, RICHARDS, SINICKI, STONE, TOWNSEND, VAN ROY, VRUWINK, WOOD, PETERSEN, J. OTT and GUNDERSON, cosponsored by Senators KREITLOW, BRESKE, DARLING, ERPENBACH, GROTHMAN, HANSEN, JAUCH, KANAVAS, LASSA, LEHMAN, PLALE, SCHULTZ, LEIBHAM, CARPENTER, TAYLOR, SULLIVAN and KEDZIE.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under this bill, a Class “A” license authorizes a Class “A” licensee to provide, free of charge, between the hours of 11 a.m. and 7 p.m., up to two taste samples per day of beer of not more than three fluid ounces each, for consumption on the Class “A” premises, to customers and visitors who have attained the legal drinking age. The same limitations that otherwise apply to the retail sale of beer also apply to the provision of taste samples. The bill also allows a brewer to provide, free of charge, on Class “A” premises with the consent of the Class “A” licensee, beer taste samples to any person who has attained the legal drinking age for consumption on these premises. Any such taste samples must be purchased by the brewer from the Class “A” licensee on whose premises the taste samples are provided. The same limitations that apply to Class “A” licensees providing taste samples also apply to brewers providing taste samples on Class “A” premises. A brewer may provide taste samples through an individual representing the brewer who is hired by the brewer and who is neither employed by nor an agent of a wholesaler.

Additionally, the bill modifies the hours during which a “Class A” licensee may provide wine taste samples, changing these hours from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. to 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

4. Given this degree of legislative activity relevant to alcohol, as well as tobacco, does WPN see its role as purely advocacy or are there some policy issues that warrant lobbying to the degree permitted by the state?

- It was agreed that WPN should lobby, to the degree permitted by state law, for the beer tax, cigarette tax, and a comprehensive statewide smoke-free workplace act, in addition to educating constituents and policymakers about the underlying issues of each.
- With regards to the beer tax and other responsible alcohol policy proposals, it was recommended that WPN cite the many national and international organizations that have taken formal stances on the need to prevent underage drinking (i.e., Surgeon General, AMA, CDC, IOM, WHO) when developing tools for advocacy and lobbying.

5. Updates from the Wisconsin Legislative Council’s Special Committee on Strengthening Wisconsin’s Families

- The committee met on March 19th. No information was available but Julia will follow-up to see where the committee stands on some of the policy options they are reviewing.
- On a related note, Ken Ramminger asked if anyone had read Leonard Sax’s “Why Gender Matters” where the author discusses among other things the cultural/social trend in this country of parents not parenting – not

establishing limits, giving their kids too much freedom, not monitoring children's behavior and activities, etc. – and advocates for gender specific approaches and interventions to youth development and parenting.

- Ken also asked if anyone had any insight into why the governor turned down \$600,000 in federal funds for abstinence only sex education programs. In a quote from some media coverage on the issue it was learned that he did so “because new rules would limit how much recipients could talk about contraception or sexually transmitted diseases.”

II. Prevention Conference Update - Julia Sherman

1. Planning

- The conference will be July 24, 25, and 26 at the Holiday Inn in Stevens Point. This year's conference will feature a banquet with keynote speaker and prevention awards ceremony to honor those that have made a significant contribution to the field. Proposed categories for recognition include outstanding leadership, outstanding volunteer, outstanding coalition, outstanding youth, and lifetime contribution to the field. WPN, WCH, WCCF, AWY, and other statewide listservs will be used to solicit nominations.

2. WPN Support of the Conference

- Julia Sherman and Sue Allen made a motion for WPN to appropriate \$1,000 for sponsorship of the Prevention Conference. Suzie Rodriguez seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- Chris Wardlow made a motion that WPN be an exhibitor at the Prevention Conference and to allocate funds necessary to do so. Ronda Kopelke seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- Karen Knudson recommended that WPN members sign up for shifts to staff the booth during the conference so that there is always someone at the booth to answer questions. Chris will coordinate this.

III. Financial Report – Susan Rodriguez, Treasurer

- Balance in checking = \$6,943.46
- CD = \$6,409.48
- Suzy Rodriguez indicated that since WPN's expenditure of approximately \$900 to host the reception at the 2006 Prevention Conference, WPN has deposited roughly \$1,100 in membership dues.

IV. Member Reports and Updates

1. Alliance for Wisconsin Youth – Sue Allen

- The Alliance's Advisory Council met on March 8th and received an update from Peg Algar at DHFS on the state's epidemiological study on ATODA. This information was sent to all alliance members and key contacts.
- The Alliance has awarded 22 mini-grants to members for community awareness initiatives and is hosting Learning Webcast/Teleconference on Thursday, March 29, from 10:30 – 11:45 am, entitled PRINCIPLES AND PROGRAMS TO STRENGTHEN FAMILIES: WHAT WORKS IN WISCONSIN
- June 14th in Madison is the all-member meeting for the Alliance
- The Alliance is starting to hold regional meetings for Alliance members who can't make meetings in the traditional sites of Madison or Stevens Point

2. Consortium for Substance Abuse Prevention in Eau Claire County – Pamela Radcliffe

- The Consortium has developed a three part series of fact sheets on underage drinking that it is sending to key stakeholders and policymakers in their service area. These are one-pagers that are accompanied by a letter from the Consortium. The titles of the fact sheets are: Underage Drinking - The Facts; Underage Drinking – The Costs; and, Underage Drinking – The Solutions. Pamela will share these with WPN.
- Also, Pamela reported that The Leader-Telegram has come out in support of a beer tax.

V. SCAODA Prevention Committee

- The state was awarded a SPF-SIG grant, which requires the formation of an advisory committee. It was determined that the SCAODA Prevention Committee would be expanded to meet this requirement being that there is significant overlap. The Prevention/SPF-SIG Committee has 30 members and is scheduled to meet for the first time on April 5th.

**The next WPN Public Policy Teleconference is
Wednesday, April 18 at 9:00am**

**The next WPN Teleconference is Wednesday,
May 16 at 9:30am**

To call in

1. DIAL 1-218-936-6660 (YOUR REGULAR LONG DISTANCE CHARGE WILL APPEAR ON YOUR PHONE BILL).
2. WHEN GIVEN A CHOICE, PRESS THE '2' KEY ON YOUR PHONE.
3. WHEN PROMPTED, DIAL THE ACCESS CODE 811811 FOLLOWED BY #.
4. ANNOUNCE YOURSELF WHEN JOINING THE CONFERENCE.