

**HAMPSTEAD POLICE DEPARTMENT
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 20, 2014
7:00 P.M.**

Chief Ken Meekins called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Chief Meekins stated that the usual format of our council meetings would not be followed tonight. He then introduced Ms. Amy Laugelli, Carroll County Health Department Substance Abuse Prevention Coordinator, who began the informational meeting entitled “Parents Speak Out...Heroin, Prescription Drugs and More”.

Ms. Amy Laugelli introduced Carol Mullins, Carroll County Health Department Underage Drinking Coordinator. She then explained their out-reach programs that they present to the Carroll County Schools and at public meetings, when invited. Ms. Laugelli then introduced the “Opioid Trends” by defining what an opiate was; a pain reliever that directly depresses the central nervous system. Ms. Laugelli discussed the following facts about these drugs: other types of opiates; symptoms; the methods of use; the methods of treatment; the effects, both long term and short term; and, Prescription Drug (Opioid) Abuse signs/symptoms/withdrawal.

In July, 2013, Carroll County developed and began their Opioid Overdose Prevention Plan:

- Education
- Tracking and Monitoring Data
- Working with Law Enforcement
- Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP)

Following Ms. Laugelli, MS. Beth Schmidt spoke about her son’s struggles with heroin abuse and his untimely death. She also accounted for 24 former students of Century and Liberty High Schools who have died as a result of heroin abuse within the past 24 months. Several family members followed by sharing their personal drug experiences; some whose children or relatives had become sober, some who were still addicts and some who had passed away.

Ms. Laugellis then introduced Mr. Tim Weber, Weber Sober Homes, who explained what a Sober Home was, and how they aided addicts in their recovery by using a 12-Step Recovery Program. Mr. Weber also discussed his 13 year addiction and how he overcame it. Mr. Weber stated in his Sober House, the residents have to have a job, they have to stay clean and they must be active in their recovery.

Ms. Laugellis introduced the next speaker, Mr. Buck Hendrick, Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) who discussed the following topics:

- “The Face of Heroin” – how the faces of users have changed over the years.
- “By the Numbers” – how much money is made from the sale of drugs.
- “The Border Situation” – how to handle drugs coming into the United States.
- “How Drugs get to Baltimore” – the ports of entry and what countries the drugs are coming from.

Mr. Hendrick stated anyone wanting more information about drugs should log on to the following excellent websites to research:

www.dea.gov.com – Main website of the DEA.

www.justthinktwice.com – An excellent website for teenagers.

www.getsmartaboutdrugs.com – An excellent website for parents and adults.

Chief Meekins described how the Hampstead Police Department is partnering with the Carroll County Health Department to find answers to deal with Carroll County's drug problem. Here are some of the Hampstead Police Department's efforts:

Chief Meekins is a member of the Overdose Fatality Review Board

Chief Meekins is also a member of the Opiate Overdose Prevention Workgroup

HPD officers attends the Carroll County Coalition Against Underage Drinking

HPD officers attend the Behavioral Health Advisory Council

HPD and the DEA, hold Prescription Drug Take-backs twice a year

HPD hosts Drug Seminars

We are also trying to get doctors on board: when it comes to writing prescriptions; making sure their patients are taking their drugs as prescribed and not combining their drugs with illicit drugs or diverting their drugs to our residents.

A question and answer discussion followed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Hampstead Police Department is scheduled for **Wednesday, November 19, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.** to be held at **Hampstead Town Hall**. Please remember this is an open meeting, and the public is always welcome.

ATTEST

CHIEF OF POLICE