

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ALCOHOL & OTHER DRUGS

May 22, 2003

3:00 PM

Deputy City Clerk Johnson stated in the absence of the Chairman I'd like to call the meeting to order and request a motion to elect the Co-Chairman, the Chairman Pro Tem, until Chairman O'Neil arrives.

On a motion of Chief Jaskolka, duly seconded by Dr. Frank Bass, it was voted to elect Alderman Pinard as Chairman Pro Tem.

The clerk called the roll.

Present: Alderman Pinard, Sergeant Kelly, Detective Fuller, Chief Jaskolka, Frank Bass, Marty Boldin, Laurel Buccino, Ron Caron, Louis Craig, Tom Farrell, John Rist, LuAnne Oatman, David Scannell

Absent: Alderman O'Neil, Elaine Douville, Tom Jordan, Amy Hanulec, Joe Harding, Judy Cooper, Kera MacKenzie, Fred Rusczek, John Stephen, Ellie Therrien

Messrs: Lyman Cousens

Chairman Pro Tem Pinard addressed Item 3 of the agenda:

Minutes of meeting held on April 24, 2003.

On a motion of Dr. Bass, duly seconded by David Scannell, it was voted to accept the minutes of the April 24, 2003 meeting.

Chairman Pro Tem Pinard addressed Item 4 of the agenda:

Review of May 12, 2003 public forum.

Chairman Pro Tem Pinard stated I think the forum was very, very successful and before I do that I would like to introduce Lyman Cousens, member and Chairman of Drug and Alcohol Prevention or Abuse in the NH Highway Safety Commission. I asked him this morning to come over because I knew we were going to have this briefing on what happened at the last meeting. Because the more that I think we get

involved in our program I think the better off we're going to be. Why don't I start with you and give your comments on last Monday's meeting.

Louis Craig stated I thought it went very well. I was very impressed with the speakers. I am anxious to look at the minutes. I know that everything was recorded because I feel that it's important to have everything on paper so that we can take a look at it to see how we can, as a body, respond to some of the things that were said. And I also think that it's important that some of the speakers come back to us and talk more about what they discussed and I know some of them wanted to speak longer. I particularly would like...I think we've talked about this before; there is not a medical detox in the City of Manchester. We lost that some time ago at Catholic Medical Center and the doctor that spoke that night I thought gave some very powerful comments and I'd like to have him come back and talk to us. There was also a teacher from one of the schools, I forget her name, and she talked extensively about the usage of drugs and alcohol in the high schools and I think it's important that we talk to her as well. So whenever those minutes and those comments are prepared it would be interesting I think for all of us to take a look at them and to do what we can do with respect to what our next plan of action should be. But I think that this committee really and truly should take a stance on a medical detox. That's just food for thought at this point, but something that we should really discuss extensively and if we get that doctor back here I'm sure that he perhaps can help us. Those are my thoughts on it.

Dr. Frank Bass stated unfortunately I was at a School Board Meeting at that time and was unable to be here for the last session. I did, however, see it on television and must say I was quite pleased. I agree with Chief Craig that a lot of the comments from the audience were excellent. I think it was great to have such a showing of the public to come in support of this and offer their commentary and to extend to us, the committee, an empowerment of yes we believe in what you're doing and want you to continue with this charge because obviously it's going to have a dramatic affect not only upon our youth but on overall growth and direction of the City. So I thought that was a great signal to hear that from our public.

John Rist stated my reaction was...first of all I was gratified by the number of people who spoke. Forty-five different people spoke, so that sort of tells you something and it certainly for me documented the problem that we've lost I believe they said 14 different facilities over the last decade, which I see as a problem. It also indicates that this committee now has...they've given us the ball and it must be our task to at least formulate proactively a plan of action and we have to shoot for the stars on this. Maybe we can do something but there was comments about, there was a committee back in the 70's, there was a committee etc., and since that time the amount of services available have decreased not increased. So they've given us our task and I think we need to...we're going to be busy. Beyond that talking about youth and alcohol, certainly the schools address alcohol consumption if it's within the parameter of the

schools and within the jurisdiction of the schools, but obviously one of the things I care about is what do we do with youth when they are arrested for possession of alcohol. Do they just go to court, pay the fine? Is there any referral system? So that is obviously my special interest. It was a good evening.

LuAnne Oatman stated I pretty much agree with what everybody has said. Rather than just restating what everybody has already said, I think the one thing that was missing, but I think it's important for people to note that we did not really have any youth that were either willing or able to testify that evening. But we did have one young person submit her testimony in writing and asked that she be allowed to do that anonymously, so I had handed that over to the Clerk that evening. I think what the young people have to say in their perceptions as far as what they're seeing in their homes, in their neighborhoods, in their schools, is important. And while I think it was really beneficial to hear what so many of the adults who are working this field are seeing and what the trends are, I also think it's important that we as a group need to remember that we always need to include the youth voice as well.

Ron Caron stated I was in agreement with everything and one of the things I noted is that a lot of the testimony was consistent. We didn't see a lot of debate between what we should do. The general agreement of what I heard was that this committee really does need to do something, this community does value treatment, prevention and intervention, all three legs of the stool, I guess was the phrase that was used a lot, are very equally important to this community. I also was very impressed with the quality of work that is being done. I know we've had a great loss of programs and hospital units and we've lost a lot in this community, but I think the people that are here and doing the work are phenomenal, very capable, very dedicated pioneers. We've got a lot of resources here so to paraphrase our old President, "What's right with Manchester can fix what's wrong". I think we can really use that expertise in this community.

Marty Boldin stated I was impressed by the number of treatment slots that we've lost, and I was impressed by the public outcry about that. I think that the comments that have been made here today are accurate and that there are gaps in services all along the continuum for substance abuse in the City and this committee I think has been given a charge as a result of that public forum to think of a strategic way of fixing that. If we don't, I don't know who else in the City is going to. Frankly there are a lot of organizations out there that were saying a lot of similar things, but I think they're looking for some leadership and it's my hope that this committee can provide some of that leadership. Maybe in the form of developing a strategic plan or moving forward the public debate. I think that we as a committee should really start looking at not just what services are needed but how much it will cost to put them in place in developing resources and a plan toward making those resources turn those needs into actual services in the City.

Chairman Pro Tem Pinard stated I'd like to say that we signed a letter, Alderman O'Neil and myself, we signed the letter and the letter is in the hands of the Governor today I hope, requesting what some of the things you say requesting that the funding come back. Also that this committee means business, that we're trying to help the people in need. My friend from the Highway, Mr. Cousens, was there at the meeting this morning, and they're willing, that's why he's here, they're willing to join force with us to see if we can get something going somewhere. Sgt. Kelly on the juvenile side of things, what did you get out of the forum?

Sgt. Kevin Kelly replied I think first and foremost in listening to the people and the emphasis was in fact on the need for different types of these facilities to get bought up again. So it appears as though over the past 10, 20 years a lot of these things such as Serenity Place and things of that nature, they've gone by the wayside. We listened to 45 different people talk and there is a definite need to get these types of facilities back up and running from the juvenile perspective. Currently right now we deal with a lot of our alcohol referrals; we refer them to the Office of Youth Services. They do a great deal of work for us. They're great when dealing with those types of situations. We didn't really hear from a lot of kids and, from what I recall, it was people from all types of different walks of life. Not a lot of kids, but in dealing with the kids that we dealt with on alcohol and drug related issues, often times they are referred to the Office of Youth Services, who do in fact have an excellent program. Along those same lines we have Amy Hanulec who isn't here today. She's the Juvenile Probation and Parole Drug and Alcohol Specialist. Again, she's relatively new; she's been with juvenile probation for close to a year being supervised by Frank Nugent, who in fact talked that night. These things we need more of them. That's one thing if we got anything out of that meeting, we need more types of these facilities, more types of professionals such as Amy out there working.

Chairman Pro Tem Pinard stated I handed out this sheet that we got today Mr. Cousens and I. There's only one thing here. It doesn't say alcohol related or drugs, but the numbers, and you look at the number 38 and 29 and a lot of it is what we're trying to fight. Are there any other comments?

Dr. Bass stated I just want to go back to LuAnne's comment. I also happened to be at a meeting ten days ago at the Salvation Army. I think what's important as well as what we're talking about here is the involvement of our youth within the program. In other words, what I'm getting at is our youth need to be aware of what we're doing as a proactive venture designed to curb the issue of drug and alcohol abuse. And the more kids that get involved in her program, go to those targeted zones, the more we get kids that are involved in the National Honor Society, Student Councils, City or other City or community service organizations, the more that our youth recognize that their own peer group is concerned about this and want to see a change, and I think that's going to have a much more probable affect and will probably bring about change

than all of the professionals that are here in this room. Kids listen to kids. That's a fact. When kids see that the large bulk of their population moving in a certain direction, they don't want to be on the outside, they want to be on the inside. So I think part of our goal is giving kids, a nucleus of kids, to be involved in these kinds of programs. This one, LuAnne's and others throughout the City, because it has a spin-off affect to the rest of our student population and they recognize that's something that is occurring that maybe they should become involved in.

David Scannell stated I wasn't able to attend so I don't want to... I did see some of it on TV, but I could speak from a position of a lack of knowledge, but I'll hold back.

Chief Jaskolka stated obviously as you know this is my first meeting here so I've got a lot of catching up to do. Basically alcohol and drugs has been a problem with the youth ever since the days that I was in the juvenile division back in the early 80's. Programs come and go and obviously we need programs in line where these kids can go and get the assistance they need so they can correct their lives and go on with them. Again, being my first meeting I'm not up on everything, but it's an ongoing problem and we need to find ways to resolve it.

Dr. Bass stated I just want to add one more thing. John Rist and I are involved in an alternative education program and I think the analogy holds very nicely. We're looking at both ends. One end, which is I think what Louis Craig keeps talking about. Well what are you going to do for those people who are already in the dilemma? What kinds of rehabilitation, what kinds of therapy, what kinds of counseling, what kinds of referrals, what kinds of medicinal services are you going to provide for those individuals. That's one side of the spectrum. The other side of the spectrum is how do you prevent it from occurring? What kinds of programs, opportunities and strategies can we create here in the City and in the schools to bring about an understanding for our families and our youth that these behaviors are obviously counterproductive? And again the same holds true for the program that John and I involved in. We are proposing an intervention-a-risk program at the middle school level, which will hopefully target some of those kids before they get too far down the road, and yet at the same time we're also proposing a program for those kids who are sort of at the last stop on the train and it's our attempt to bring them back to the school. Hold them in the school and provide a program for them so they realize that their education is important even though they are so far down the road. So again as Chief Craig talked about, you have to have both things and you have to have them operating at the same time. So I just don't want to lose sight of that point.

Mr. Craig stated well I did make some comments but I am rather curious. There was an awful lot of people that spoke the other night and I'm just wondering. I'm sure you know Mr. Chairman what is the process? Is a report going to be prepared as a result of that forum by the City Clerk's office?

Administrative Assistant Valerie Fysh stated the minutes have been done but they were not ready for distribution to the committee for this meeting. I will be distributing copies after they are reviewed.

Mr. Craig replied I'm sure they must be massive so that's quite understandable. Perhaps for the next meeting, prior to the next meeting, they will be out and everyone can review them and based on that report, we can come up with some decisions that we think should be made. Or discuss various subjects pertaining to the report. I'd like to hear from Scotty and from Tom as well.

Tom Farrell stated I thought it was well attended and there were very good speakers. I would also like to set up a small committee of people that actually did the forum, review the tape, and extract the data from the testimonies and also document the most outstanding issues. I want to distribute the findings to local organizations so that they may be used for future plans, and also utilize and propose the policies to address the issues. The other item would be to educate the people in Manchester about the issues.

Mr. Craig stated Mr. Chairman I think he makes a great point, but we've got to go step by step here. The most important thing is let's get the report and review it and if necessary then have a sub-committee composed if we deem it necessary to do that.

Chairman Pro Tem Pinard replied I think that's the direction that Alderman O'Neil and I have gone and what you're saying is we're going along. The next meeting we'll have the full report to review. We'll send a copy to Mr. Cousens because I think that... Do you have any comments Mr. Cousens?

Lyman Cousens stated I was very interested to hear your comments because so much money these days, with the limited amount of funds, so much money is being spent and the United Way fund allocated to put out the fires instead of preventing the fires in the first place. So I think that's the key and that's what it's all about. Look at organizations like the Boys & Girls Club or the Y or the Boy Scouts. That's the key I think is prevention but with the limited amount of funds it's all being spent on putting out the fire. Real mentioned the Traffic Safety Commission. The Traffic Safety Commission, I guess we're political appointees aren't we, but we meet quarterly and then the emphasis is primarily is on influencing legislation that affects highway safety. Certainly the driving issues. Forty percent of the people that were killed on the highways last year were killed in alcohol related crashes in the State of New Hampshire. That is terrible. It's a pleasure to be here and appreciate being invited and I've enjoyed your comments.

Chairman Pro Tem Pinard replied thank you and we'll keep you posted on what we're doing.

Dr. Frank Bass stated just to respond to Mr. Cousen's comments about the Boys Club and the YMCA. Again for those of you who have had an opportunity to be involved with either of those organizations or have gone to the annual dinners they have, the Boys Club had theirs this past week and YMCA a couple of months ago. But in each case you hear story after story of families that were indigent, destitute, or behind in their luck so to speak, and the YMCA was a home for them or the Boys Club was a home and they made connections with the personnel there and they found a way out of the dilemma they were in. Take away the YMCA, take away the Boys Club and you take away the opportunity for those students and those families, those children, to move forward and all the more likely they will find themselves in situations that we're talking about here today. I think that's an excellent point. Sometimes we take those organizations for granted. They do a really wonderful job for our City, the Boys & Girls Club and the YMCA.

Detective Scott Fuller stated I'm not going to speak to the meeting the other night. We've all done a good job speaking about that. What I will talk about is, I'm in a unique position being assigned at Central High School as the detective over there. And it's a little bit different from Dr. Bass and Principal Rist in that they're in the education side of what goes on in the facility and I'm more in the education/law enforcement of what happens there. And one thing that I've come to notice over the last 2 ½ years is that when adults are counseled due to drug and alcohol abuse, they're instructed and counseled to try and take themselves out of any situations in which they might be attempted to relapse or go back into using drugs and alcohol. For instance if it's standard that a person goes out every Friday night with his coworkers. They might be counseled to avoid that type of situation in order to stay away from the urges and desires. We're talking to adults who have that ability and that maturity to make that decision to try and take themselves out of that position. What I've come to recognize in the last 2 ½ years is, that when a juvenile who we recognize is not mature enough to make the proper decisions yet at the age of 12, 13, 15 and 16. They're being caught experimenting or actually abusing and being addicted to some of the alcohol and drugs and what are we doing? Monday morning we send them right back into the environment that allowed them to deteriorate. Now that's not to say that the alcohol and drugs are there at the schools. That is no way what I'm saying. What I'm saying is the environment i.e. the friends that they associate with are there and if we ask our adults to stay out of those environments, and yet put our children who can't make the proper decisions back into those environments, we're not assisting or helping them at all. I don't like to identify a problem without offering a solution, but in this particular instance I don't have one at this time. It is simply an assessment of what I am seeing. We're taking a child who is at risk or fully addicted and keeping them within that environment, because if they don't go to that environment they're getting into a different set of circumstances in that they're failing to complete their education.

Mr. Caron stated I really appreciate those last comments in particular because as we look at the environments that our youth have to face in order to access a healthy choice and healthy environments it is kind of overwhelming. They don't have control over where they go to school or what time they go to work and really who is in their homeroom classes and they don't have control over those environments. But they do have a lot choices if they can work with, and we do have a lot of organizations and supports that are designed to help kids make those better choices. I would like to, in an effort to emphasis how important that prevention is and all of the good work that organizations like the Boys & Girls Club and the YMCA and the other prevention based organizations that are some important in this community, I would like to not take anything away from the treatment and the intervention ends of things. That it's really important to not see removing a kid from an environment to access treatment as a solution, that we have to have our solutions right here in Manchester. We have to have our outpatient programs, our family based supports, help a youth while they are experiencing the stress and the environments that they're stuck with, that they can't control, so that they're better equipped to face the same situations day after day.

Mr. Boldin stated this isn't so much about the forum but as a response to what Ron's saying. I think what we really need to be looking at is that substance abuse is going to look different ways in different communities at different times, and there's a cohort of people that need intervention, there's a cohort of people who need prevention, there's a cohort of people who need treatment. And I applaud all of the efforts that all of these different organizations make to try to improve the services that we've heard. But until the City looks at coordinating all of those services in a continuum of care around substance abuse, we're always going to be like a dog chasing it's tail. We really need to figure out how law enforcement, social services, the medical community, education community, City government, how all of these different branches or parts of the community of Manchester can create a plan to have people at any place in the City at any particular time who need resources around substance abuse treatment, intervention, prevention will have access to it. Once we've done that, then we'll see all of this tertiary and secondary affects of substance abuse in this community reduced. Not just spiked to a particular program that's been put in place for a short period of time, but as an overall continuing response that the City has to this public health crisis.

Detective Fuller stated Mr. Chairman I'd be remiss if I didn't at least pat one other entity on the back for a good job and that is the Manchester School District. It is my understanding that recently in the past couple of years, or maybe even possibly this year is the first time as an experimental satellite class, they're offering health education over at Green Acres School. And I don't believe that it's widespread yet throughout the City, maybe you could correct me Dr. Bass, but I've spoken with several of the first graders over there and those teachers are doing a phenomenal job and I would hope that that class is expanded. At six and seven years old, these first graders are talking about drugs and alcohol and the need to stay away from them. That

is the target group that has to be hit at this point to educate them so that we can start nipping this problem in the bud in 10 to 15 years and I would hope that if that hasn't already been expanded or made to be a permanent entity that it be considered.

Mr. Scannell stated isn't it true Dr. Bass that they hired 18 health educators last year at the elementary level to do just those?

Dr. Bass replied yes, correct. I think the point...I don't want to get too much into the school side here, but certainly health education has become a primary focus for us. We've entertained the notions with working with cooperative extension for a supplement health program at our middle school level. We've touched base with Gail Garseau and the United Way. In any event, it's a program that's designed to get kids in the City, the community, aware of our need to become more health conscious. What kinds of choices are we making? What kinds of opportunities are we becoming involved in? To make a long story short, health education is a primary focus in the Manchester public schools and certainly we will continue that effort.

Chairman Pro Tem Pinard addressed Item 6 of the agenda:

Discussion regarding the brochure enclosure for City billings.

Chairman Pro Tem Pinard stated Chief Craig has passed this out and has everybody had a chance to look at it and do you want to talk about it Louis?

Mr. Craig stated first of all this is not the brochure that we're talking about. The brochure that we're talking about is the one that I presented last month to the committee on alcohol and I hate to tell the committee but they're still kind of fine-tuning that brochure. I'm trying to figure out cost to mail that brochure to every single household in the City and the printing cost is well is over \$1,000. Then there is folding and stuffing costs. Also this has to be coordinated with the Water Works because it is the Water Works bill that we hope to put these brochures in. I hope to have everything completed for the committee by next month along with a local business that will pay for the cost of everything. In addition to that Mr. Chairman, Kevin Kelly and I talked about a brochure that I handed out to everybody today and it's a brochure that the Nashua Police Department sent out to all of their citizens in the City of Nashua four or five years ago and I thought it was kind of a unique brochure. It's a message on what parents should do in dealing with their kids and dealing with the subject of drugs and alcohol and what the law is and what the City ordinance is and Kevin and Scotty feel that they can update that aspect of it. Also it would include a message from Chief John Jaskolka along with a message from the Mayor of the City of Manchester. So this I think would be our second brochure but now you've got to understand that there are 26,000 households in the City of Manchester, believe it or

not. I was talking to Diane the other day and the bills that go out, the water bills are staggered over a three-month period. These would have to be stuffed and they would have to be folded on a continual basis. It's costly, but I think it would be extremely affective if we can do it and when we do it. With respect to this, and I'd like some feedback on this. Kevin maybe you have some comments on it.

Detective Kelly stated Mr. Chairman, Louis faxed this over to me yesterday morning, and I reviewed it. Again, it's from the Nashua Police Department and most of it still stands as far as the laws that remain in effect through the State of New Hampshire. Obviously the City of Nashua ordinances...we can look into the Manchester ordinances and for the most part you look at the first offense. A lot of the changes, what few there are actually, affects the monetary values as far as the fines. For instance, \$179.10 you're looking at unlawful possession of alcohol, now it's up, the first offense, \$250.00. It's just a matter of tweaking it, fine tuning it for the most part.

Mr. Caron stated I really like the brochures. I think designing or redesigning it so that it fits the Manchester community makes a lot of sense and sending it out with the water bill is a great first step. However, we have to understand that not every household in Manchester has a water bill, that a lot of the families that we're trying to reach are the tenants and the water bill will go to their landlords. So we'd like to find another avenue, obviously start with the water bills, because that will reach 26,000 households, but then perhaps outreach to tenements, mailing to some of the larger housing communities anyway. I think there are other avenues that we need to continue to pursue and not just stop with the water bill idea. I think it's that valuable information to get out to the Manchester community.

Mr. Craig asked does anyone have any comments on the content of what parents can do? I'm not so sure if we should get into...talking to Kevin about this a contract between the teenager and the parent. Is that something that we should keep in there or...?

Detective Kelly stated Mr. Chairman I think this we had talked about before. It's something strictly between the teenager and the parent. It's obviously non-binding. This is just between the parent and the teenager. More of an informative thing, nothing legal.

Mr. Boldin stated the Division on Alcohol and Drug Abuse and Prevention has just released a document booklet called "*Talking to Your Kids About Alcohol*". It's free and they're giving them away by the hundreds and thousands right now. I had the opportunity to read it yesterday and this might be a book that we might be able to get over to the school systems, maybe to send home, or put out on open school nights, or get it to pediatricians or any place where parents might show up. It's a really

outstanding document that discusses all of the different contingencies that occur when young people are using alcohol and other drugs.

Mr. Craig asked who is going to check on that Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Boldin replied I'd be happy to follow up on that.

Mr. Craig stated I would like a vote on this Mr. Chairman for the second brochure to go out.

On a motion of Marty Boldin, duly seconded by Dr. Bass, it was moved to send the second brochure out.

Mr. Craig asked Kevin and Scotty you guys feel comfortable with this?

Mr. Rist stated the brochure is entitled "*How to Talk to Your Teenagers about Alcohol and the Law*". When you open it up it's the law for two folds of the tri-fold and then what parents can do and certainly the concept is wonderful. However, it really doesn't tell parents how to talk to their kids about alcohol and the law. It tells them what to do and what not to do, but it doesn't tell them about the sit down, let's talk about this conversation. Again, it needs to be tweaked. It says one thing at the title, and then realistically though that's not what the brochure tells you. It doesn't tell you how to sit down with your teenager and talk about drinking.

Chairman Pro Tem Pinard asked what would you suggest?

Mr. Rist replied I'd suggest that if we're going to tweak some of the laws, and I think that's very important to have those in there so the students know the penalty, I would look at this as we work on this possibly and just have it presented maybe in a little more positive fashion, other than this is the law, this is the law.

Mr. Craig stated I think that perhaps Sgt. Kelly could prepare the next draft for the next meeting. We certainly have got plenty of time because the first brochure is going to be sent to 26,000 households over a three-month period. We certainly have got plenty of time to prepare this and so if you could do that Kevin, just prepare a draft.

Sgt. Kelly stated as far as preparing a draft. I have no problem going ahead with the actual laws and things of that nature, but I would suggest that maybe someone in the counseling services or someone take care of that area.

Mr. Craig asked you're referring to what parents can do?

Mr. Boldin asked Kevin if you'd like I'd be willing to take a little bit of time, sit down with you, and maybe we could retool it together? We could set up a time after this meeting?

Sgt. Kelly replied sure.

Mr. Caron stated I'd also like to offer up our parent line program that runs in the Union Leader from Child and Family Services. We could probably tie that in together with this brochure and help educate families from the newspaper article as well.

Mr. Rist stated the school district has seven student assistance program coordinators and their main function is to talk to teenagers about drug and alcohol pretty much all of the time. I think their experiences and also an individual like Danny Duval he talks to kids about drinking, and they may have more expertise as to what actually works and what actually can have an impression on a child then say I do. I mean I have some ideas but I haven't worked with kids who abuse drugs and alcohol day after day, 180 days a year for years. So I think that might be a resource that this group could and should probably tap into and other people who really have great expertise in the area as far as counseling and talking with children about alcohol and drugs.

Chairman Pro Tem Pinard stated why don't Sgt. Kelly, John Rist, Dr. Bass, and Louis Craig sit down and work this over and at the next meeting you'll have some work done on the brochure, the language that you need. Is that agreeable with you Chief Craig?

Chief Craig stated I think what we ought to do is, why doesn't Kevin write the language pertaining to the law. And then the school department along with the seven counselors who deal with kids come up with some language with respect to what parents can do. And once that is done, then Kevin and Marty can get together and kind of fine-tune this thing. But we certainly have an awful lot of time for this, I can tell you that. Does that make sense to you?

Mr. Boldin replied that makes perfect sense. But I just want to go to the people who have the best expertise and if Dr. Bass can wave his magic wand and assign this to those seven people and they can give us language like we've never seen before.

Chairman Pro Tem Pinard asked is everybody in favor of that recommendation?

Administrative Assistant Valerie Fysh asked can I get clarification on the motion? Who moved it and who seconded it?

Mr. Boldin stated actually I think my motion initially would now be withdrawn. It appears that there's a new motion on the floor, so I will withdraw my motion.

Chairman Pro Tem Pinard addressed Item 5 of the agenda:

Report on presentations at junior high schools.

Dr. Bass stated Chief Craig passed that out to me and as he said he has worked with all of the junior high schools in terms of passing out information. We have a principal's meeting next week with the middle school principals, so as I told Chief Craig I will get ample response from our principals regarding how this brochure has been received and what kinds of activities and reactions we have amongst our middle school population. We're actually looking forward to that. I think as we've mentioned earlier here, the more we can get kids to respond, not just to pass out information and to say here's something you should be aware of, but to have conversation about it and to make some sort of activity around it certainly goes a long way in terms of that information and that opportunity to be moved into some sort of recognizable action.

Chief Craig stated I'd like to add to that Mr. Chairman. The brochure that you see is the brochure that we handed out to the school principals and hopefully over 4,000 middle school kids will be receiving this brochure. The purpose of the brochure is for the kids to take the brochure home, discuss drugs and alcohol with their parents, and for the parents to sign the coupon that's inside and they can redeem this coupon at McDonald's for a hamburger and a Coke. But I've got to tell you; I asked Dr. Bass if he heard any response from the principals and the teachers. We had two speakers from the NH State Prison for Women and I thought both of them did a wonderful job in talking to the middle school students and could tell that because no one spoke while they were speaking. They were very attentive, they asked some very good questions, so I thought it was a successful program, however, Dr. Bass will check and find out, I think it's something I would like to see us do again next year.

Chairman Pro Tem Pinard asked is there anything under new business? I do have one thing under new business which is the meeting in July is going to be suspended over the vacation. Do you want to hold a meeting in July or shall we just hold our meeting in June and then call it for the summer?

Administrative Assistant Valerie Fysh noted the City Clerk had requested that the June and July meetings be cancelled due to summer vacations. That was a request of his, but of course it's up to the committee.

Mr. Craig responded I think we ought to meet in June at least and then go from there.

Dr. Bass stated Mr. Chairman if I may. I think the Chief is correct. We should meet in June. There's been a lot of items that we've discussed that need to be either brought to some sort of fruition or at least talked about and then I think the August meeting is necessary because school starts up the very next month and we need to know exactly what we're doing as school approaches.

Chairman Pro Tem Pinard asked so we will take July off?

Mr. Craig stated I could see perhaps the month of July, but I mean we just yapped about nine thousand issues here and I think we ought to meet next month and kind of yap further about them.

Chairman Pro Tem Pinard stated we will meet in June and August.

There being no other business to come before the committee, on a motion of Mr. Craig, duly seconded by Dr. Bass, it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.

Clerk of Committee