Balance of State Regional Committee Meeting Minutes 11/21/13

Members Present
Frances Johnson National Guards
Shari Wright Connections BWB
Sharon Poarch Shelter Home
Larry McMullen VTAB

Sharon Osborne YokeFellow

Elizabeth Norris YokeFellow Intern

Lori Watts Smoky Mountain Center

Angela Horton SSVF

Sherry Wall Community Volunteer

April Davis Caldwell County DSS

Angela Battle Kwanzaa Family Inn

EB Freeman Kwanzaa Family Inn

Michele Erin Community Volunteer

1. **Introduction**

Shari opened the meeting by welcoming all the new community partners and having them introducing themselves. The remainder of the coalition also did introductions.

1. **Review of October Minutes**

The minutes were reviewed from the October meeting. No corrections or additions were made. The motion to approve the minutes as written was made by Sharon Poarch and seconded by Frances Johnson.

1. **Updates on National Hunger and Homeless Awareness Week**

Sharon Poarch gave an update on the events for the week. She reported we had a fairly successful National Hunger and Homeless Awareness Week. The turnout at the Tuesday night forum was a small group but it produced some volunteers for the coalition. The Friday night sleep out had 33 people to come to watch the movie “The Line”, however only a handful stayed for sleep out. This may have been due to prospect of rain. The Saturday College Street event has little turn out of homeless individuals but we may need to do more direct marketing of the events next year.

1. **Plans for PIT Count**

The Group discussed the annual PIT count and ways to get accurate counts for Caldwell, Alexander and McDowell Counties. The Coalition decided that there would be a back pack program on the night of the PIT Count. A small focus group will work on the back pack and Larry will get information on places that feed on the weekends. Sharon will apply for a Walmart Grant. Shari will create cards to be handed out notifying individuals of the PIT Count and its importance.

1. **Agency Updates:**

There was no Agency updates at this meeting

 Next meeting December 12, 2013.

Minutes submitted by Shari Wright