Problem Gambling Task Force Minutes for 12/9/10 Meeting:

Welcome/Updates: Debbie Snapp welcomed everyone to the meeting. She then asked for updates from the group. Alma Lares reported that she has been active with local churches to help get the word out regarding problem gambling. Denise reported that Ford County has had their first felony conviction centered on gambling. She stated that it was a Level 8 felony in which the person involved was caught cheating at the casino when he tried to manipulate a bet. The incident occurred in January, 2010 and was just now getting through the court system.

Problem Gambling Alliance – Report: Debbie spoke to being a member of the Alliance and that she was no longer going to give updates on the meetings unless there is something that affects the Task Force. She went on to state that anyone can see the minutes and agenda from the meetings by going to the website: http://www.ksgamblinghelp.com. If interested, we can provide input to the Alliance on what information we would like to see on our page and can submit our minutes/agenda for posting to the page once it is able to be updated.

Financial Report: Debbie stated that she would start providing the group with a monthly financial report. Currently, we have $3,000 - $4,000 leftover from last year’s funds that can be used as the group deems appropriate.

Review of Strategic Planning Session: There was further discussion on what should be the name of the task force that was carried over from the strategic planning session held in November. It was decided that we would go with the name of Southwest Kansas Problem Gambling Task Force in order to properly reflect our member base.

A mission statement was also part of the strategic planning session. It was further discussed before deciding on the following: Southwest Kansas Problem Gambling Task Force raises awareness and provides education to individuals, families, and communities to reduce the harmful effects of problem gambling. A motion was made and seconded to accept this as our mission statement.

The organization of subcommittees was discussed within the strategic planning session. It was decided that we would start with the suggested subcommittees that were brought up in the strategic planning session. To start, we will have a 1) Public Relations/Marketing committee, 2) a Political Advocacy committee, 3) a Funding committee, 4) an Education committee and 5) a Special Events committee. Debbie passed around a sign-up sheet and asked everyone present to sign their names to a subcommittee that interested them. Patrick then raised the question of whether or not we could be considered as a non-profit organization to help with the funding needs. It was then decided that the subcommittee members would meet prior to our next meeting to define the role of their committee for the group. The
subcommittee should define what they are wanting to work on for the next year, how they will meet these goals, and what roles the members will fill within the committees. This will be presented at the next meeting. Debbie also stated that she would email the lists out to the mass email grouping and see if other volunteers for the committees would step forward.

It was determined that in establishing the roles/jobs of the Task Force, we would only have the champion and the Secretary. The lengths of terms will be reevaluated after a 1 year term. Debbie suggested that we did not have a need for a treasurer since the funds were being handled through her offices already. The floor was opened for volunteers to be the Secretary, which Kerry Kaiser volunteered to fulfill the duties. As Debbie had already accepted the champion role, there was not further discussion needed.

A vision statement was also part of the strategic planning session, but it was tabled until the next meeting due to time constraints and the group not having the proper notes from the planning session to discuss the topic.

Members Present: The following members were present at the meeting:

1. Debbie Snapp
2. Kerry Kaiser
3. Denise Parker
4. Patrick
5. Alma Lares
6. Sharon Stuart
7. Sharon Erickson
8. Dave Geist
9. Kevin Ford
10. Cindy Jacobs

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on the 2nd Thursday in January, 1/13/11. Meeting was then adjourned.