

KASC Community Safety Awareness Meeting January 17, 2012 @Piccadilly Restaurant, Kingsport, TN

Welcome by President Mike Livingston. Randy Cassell opened with prayer.

Mike welcomed first time visitors and reviewed the current events. The KASC Seminar Committee has met on several occasions and they are on track for the 2012 event that will be held on Wednesday, May 9.

Randy Cassell reported that the Safe Communities of America Award will be presented by the National Safety Council on March 20, 2012. Melissa Hamilton is leading the plans for this ceremony. Several of the Tennessee political leaders have been invited, including Governor Haslam.

Mike introduced Kingsport Police Training Officer Tom Patton who is an active member of the KASC Board of Directors, currently serving as the Vice President of Traffic Safety. Tom gave an exceptional program regarding Synthetic Drugs and their negative impact on society. He shared several videos that demonstrated the excessively delusional reaction that users display while high on these man-made drugs. There are several issues that hamper efforts to stop the widespread use of these new products. They are a highly profitable product, creating up to \$10,000 daily sales in some cases. They are not readily detectable through blood screening, so that makes it harder to prove that someone is legally high. Producers of these products, including bath salts, are constantly changing the packaging and "designation of use" to keep one step ahead of regulations and/or the law.

Tom stated that the KPD will be presenting this program at the local city high school this week. He also offered to provide the training for other organizations to promote this awareness program. There were several questions from the audience. Mike presented Tom with a token of appreciation from the council.

The speaker for the February meeting will be provided by Melissa Hamilton.