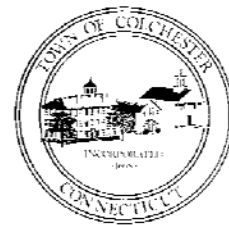




Colchester Youth FIRST

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YOUTH FIRST COALITION
June 4, 2014 Meeting Minutes
Location: Colchester Youth Center
Time: 5:00-6:30pm

Voting members present: Lorraine Marvin, Linda Bromley, Pam Scheibelein, Gina Ebbeling, Kathy Wonderly, Robert Suchecki

Voting members absent: Shirley Ellis, Josh Vinoski

Non voting members present: Linda Iacobellis

Non voting members absent: Barbara Gilbert, Christopher Bennett, Meaghan Hickey

Others present: Valerie Geato, Jennifer Martino, Amber Albee, Ginnie Streppa, Denise Mizla (BOS), Rob Tarlov (BOF)

1. Call meeting to order: Rob Suchecki called the meeting to order at 5:01pm
2. Public comments: BOF gives budget update and notes that the substance abuse counselor is currently included
3. Program updates:
 - a. All groups are wrapping up for the school year
 - b. Due to a conflict with school events, our Youth Leadership Award recipients were not available to attend the meeting, but we are going to do a presentation to them at the Family Summer Palooza event.
 - c. The substance abuse lawn signs are up around town and they are being noticed. A few of the board members have received some good feedback- Lorraine noted that maybe we could put some of the signs and statistics up for the open house events.
 - d. Summer trips are almost all full and on waiting lists.
 - e. Community Conversation has been moved to Fall (September) in order to give more time to find a quality speaker, order supplies, and advertise the drug drop box at the police department.
 - f. Summer Lunch starts June 23-Aug 15 11:30-12:30 at CES. This year we are partnering with summer school and we are doing breakfast and lunch. We are hoping to reach out to more children and educate parents on available resources in the town.
 - g. Back to School Supplies and Clothing Drive is starting in the schools (Teachers and staff) this week and to the community July 7. Clothing tags will be available at Hope Hardware, Browning and Lee, the library, Westchester Market, and Noel's – Kathy notes that next year, we should put the items for collection in the schools in May.
4. 2014 Goals “Year of the Family”- Family Summer Palooza June 14, 2014

- a. Pam is picking up the ice cream from Ben & Jerry's- will also pick up from Farmer's Cow, we just need to get her the contact information.
 - b. Volunteer sign-up sheets were passed around to assign duties for the event.
 - c. Shirley Ellis has been in contact and will be bringing 4 additional volunteers
 - d. Volunteers should arrive for set up at 10 am.
 - e. Everyone has volunteered to bring something for the bake sale.
 - f. Youth Services has ordered and confirmed all items necessary for the hot dog station.
5. Local business sales of drug paraphernalia- Discussion of Action Plan
- a. A Forbes editorial article was discussed that was written about the observation of a purchase of convenience store "crack pipes". The article mentions that they are commonly sold behind the counter- this could be something to look into to see if it is true in Colchester.
 - b. Jen spoke with Michelle Hamilton from the GASP coalition in Groton and she gave her some of the materials that they use to educate their community. We could use some of these as a launching point for our own project.
 - c. In the Fall, we will write letters to businesses from the board, and also from kids in the civics classes and community service groups. We will emphasize to the stores and their owners that we do not want it in our town.
 - d. Before we print any materials- Rob S. will research current statutes.
6. Other Business: Rob Suchecki announces his step down as chairman. The following people were nominated and voted in for the coming year:

Gina Ebbeling- Chair

Rob Suchecki- Vice Chair

Kathy Wonderly- Secretary

7. Adjourn: Rob Suchecki motioned to adjourn at 6:15, seconded by Kathy Wonderly.