



## Colchester Youth FIRST

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### Youth Services Advisory Board/ Youth FIRST Coalition

November 5, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Location: Colchester Youth Center

Time: 5:00-6:30pm

Voting members present: Lorraine Marvin, Gina Ebbeling, Kathy Wonderly, Robert Suchecki, Ginnie Streppa

Voting members absent: Linda Bromley, Josh Vinoski, Shirley Ellis

Non voting members present: Barbara Gilbert

Non voting members absent: Christopher Bennett, Linda Iacobellis

Others present: Valerie Geato, Amber Albee, Rob Tarlov (BOF), Michael Voiland (BOE), Denise Mizla (BOS), Tricia Dean

1. Call meeting to order at 5:06 pm
2. No public comments
3. No program update questions. Reminder- the Girls on Track Ugly Sweater Run in Hartford will take place December 6<sup>th</sup>.
4. Trick or Trunk was successful. Elyse and her husband did a wonderful job creating the theme "Don't get caught in the web of drugs". They handed out healthy childhood development informational pamphlets and lollipops with the slogan "say boo to drugs".
5. Recap Community Conversation
  - a. Roughly 75 people were in attendance. It was received well by all.
  - b. We would like to do another community conversation possibly this coming spring stemming off of this one, but having a separate component for parents and students. Mary Marcucio would be coming back to address the parents and Stonington Institute would be speaking with the students.
  - c. The video that was shown was a great tool that the school has expressed interest in using in health classes. There is a possibility of a 90 minute program being developed between the schools and youth services, and based on the topics that were covered.
  - d. Our goal is to continue the conversation that has been started, with possibly 2 more in the series this year.
  - e. Another topic that we may branch out to is cutting and self-harm. Program coordinator, Jen Martino will be attending a presentation on the topic soon and will be reporting back what she learns.
  - f. We want to bring awareness to issues that parents either don't know the prevalence of or don't know how to handle on their own.

