

Dartmouth Youth Commission
Sept 18, 2012, 6:30 PM
Minutes
Room 118 Town Hall

Members Present: Nicole Rabstajnek, Gale Shultz, Debbie Brejcha, Jamie Jacquart, Joanne Boucher

Regrets: Rozzy Glaser- Bernstein, Mike McHenry

Minutes of 7.24.12. Approved as presented.

Budget Report dated 9.12.12 (Gift Account balances not available with this report) Approved as presented.

Old Business:

- Organizational Meeting: Nicole Rabstajnek was voted Chair, and Gale Shultz was voted Vice-Chair.
- As planned previously, a lengthy discussion was held with Commissioners and the Youth Advocate regarding developing policies and guidelines for a proposed new Youth Commission photo site. The following guidelines were approved
 1. Following a recommendation by Kevin, Commissioners agreed that the site would be hosted by the online photo hosting site Smug Mug. (<http://dartmouth-youth-photos.smugmug.com/>)
 2. A Media Release Form would continue to be required of all persons with images on the site.
 3. All albums containing images of support group members would be pass code protected and copy protected.
 4. The existing Youth Commission Photo/Media Policy Statement would be reviewed at a future Youth Commission meeting.
 - 5 The Youth Coms. Photo/Media Police will be stated on the release form.
 6. Nicole and Joanne agreed to continue to continue viewing each new album added to the site.

Youth Advocate's Report:

- Teen Zone Group began meeting On September 10, 2012.
- Girl Power Group to begin Oct 3, 2012
- A discussion was held regarding Kevin's proposal to not offer the Banana Splits Group this year due to low enrollment over the past two years, and Kevin's desire to offer something different to the community. Kevin reported that he has run the Banana Splits group consecutively for the last 17 years!
- Kevin discussed a concept for a possible new group that encompasses and outreaches to a wider circle of children.
- Kevin discussed a concern that he has regarding clients sending a messages to the present "Youth Advocate Facebook Page" that does not go to the Youth Advocate. This page has been helpful in the past as a way to let Dartmouth residents know about our services. However, it also allows people to send a private message, and Kevin recently learned that a client had done so thinking that it would go directly to him, After a brief discussion, (Nicole said that she would remove the page, which is connected to her Facebook account. We plan to begin a new Facebook page sometime soon so that any messages sent through it would go directly to the Youth Advocate's email account.
- Kevin reported that the small office he has been using to see clients at the High School is no longer available. Kerry Lynch, Dartmouth High School Principal, offered several other locations for Kevin to use when he needs to meet with someone.
- Kevin reported, with pleasure that Channa Carroll, a senior at UMD, and Katie Brailey, a senior at Fisher College, will serve as interns this year. Channa will assist with the Girl Power group and Katie will help with Girl Power, Teen Zone and the new group that Kevin plans to develop.

Commissioner's Discussion:

- Nicole informed members that she has spoken with a Dartmouth parent who might like to join the Youth Commission.
- Following the discussion within Kevin's report regarding Facebook, Commissioners agreed that having a Facebook account dedicated solely to the Youth Advocate's Office was preferred. The Commission envisions a working group consisting of Youth Commission members and the Youth Advocate. Future action on this will be taken up at a future meeting.

New Business:

- With regret, the Youth Commission has received word that Dan Cook will not continue on the Youth Commission.
- Explore potential new appointees to the Youth Commission.
- Youth Commission approved not offering the Banana Splits Group this year which will allow Kevin time to develop a new empowerment group for children.
- Next meeting: November 13, 2012 at 6:30 PM.
- NOTE: Fall Town Meeting, October 16, 7:00 PM at the High School