

Minutes of the Youth Advisory Committee Meeting,
March 1, 2013

Members Present: Dr. Marlene Dodyk, Ms. Deborah Seidman, Detective Ruth Backman, Mr. Jim Forti, Deacon Geoffry Higgins, Mr. Joe Karbowski

Also Present: Dr. Lynn Dowd, Dr. Dossie Kahn

Staff Updates

- New referrals continue from school guidance and other sources.
- Diversion work continuing with two new referrals received.
- Support Group for grandparents continuing – Dr. Kahn
- Presentations by Dr. Kahn to Mom to Mom held at Trinitarian church and to parents of elementary grades and younger scheduled for March 8th and 5th respectively
- Dr. Dowd and Dr. Kahn continue to participate in community collaboration for programming next year – coordinated by Ms. Betsy Meindl, the theme for next year will be Communication.

FY 14 Budget

- There have been no further recommendations regarding WYFS Budget.

Board Updates and Discussion

- Bullying and peer to peer harassment discussed as community concern.
- Internet safety and expanding access among young children discussed as a growing concern.
- Deacon Higgins introduced discussion of growing ELL needs as school populations include greater number of students whose first language is not English.
- Discussion also touched on intersection between language learning needs and a subset of students who also have additional special education needs.
- Focus of all discussion remains on raising awareness of how WYFS can best serve community through consultation, education and clinical service support.

Next meetings: 04/05/13, 05/03/13 06/07/13 small school hearing room.

Respectfully submitted,
Dossie F. Kahn, Psy.D.