

Minutes of the Youth Advisory Committee Meeting,  
April 5, 2013

Members Present: Mr. Jim Forti, Deacon Goeff Higgins, Mr. Joe Karbowski, Ms. Corrie Dretler,  
Ms. Jane Purser

Also Present: Dr. Lynn Dowd

Minutes of 3/1/13 were reviewed but could not be approved due to absence of a quorum of attending members of the 3/1/13 meeting.

#### Staff Updates

- New referrals continue from school guidance and other sources.
- Diversion work continuing with new and continuing cases.
- Support Group for grandparents continuing – Dr. Kahn
- Presentations by Dr. Kahn to parents of elementary grades and younger on March 5<sup>th</sup> ; Mom to Mom presentation rescheduled to April due to inclement weather; PTO panel presentation for middle school parents in late April.
- Dr. Dowd and Dr. Kahn continue to participate in community collaboration for programming next year – coordinated by Ms. Betsy Meindl
- Friends of WYFS are sponsoring workshops with Helen Rainoff, focusing on teaching parents meditation skills they can teach their children 4/3 and 4/10/13.
- High School Community Service Award Night 4/23

#### FY 14 Budget

- Town Meeting passed the Omnibus budget last night, making no changes to the WYFS budget as proposed. However, WaylandCares budget was eliminated completely, which will be a loss of service to the community if the grant funding is not renewed.

#### Board Updates and Discussion

- Mr. Jim Forti announced his resignation from the YAC, effective 4/15/13, due to the need to change his residency to New Hampshire. He will be ineligible to serve on the YAC, so the need arises to elect a new chair and to recruit a new board member.
- Internet safety and expanding access among young children discussed as a growing concern. A discussion ensued about how to educate parents so that they are knowledgeable in how to place limits on social media. Officer Mark Wilkins of the WPD was suggested as a possible resource.
- Concerns about kids' access to inappropriate electronic content were discussed, as well as ways that parents can work together to create guidelines and manage this issue and those that arise later in adolescence.

Next meetings: 05/03/13 and 06/07/13 small School Department conference room.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lynn Dowd, Psy.D.