

Minutes of the Youth Advisory Committee Meeting,
December 7, 2012

Members Present: Dr. Marlene Dodyk, Ms. Deborah Seidman, Mr. Jim Forti, Ms. Jane Purser, Mr. Joe Karbowski, Ms. Corrie Dretler

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

Minutes of 10/26/12 reviewed and approved

Staff Updates

- New referrals continue from school guidance and other sources.
- Court Diversion work continuing no new youth cases referred by WPD, 1 new referral from WHS.
- WYFS clinical and staff utilization statistics presented.
- Friends of WYFS developing program geared toward elementary school parents.

FY 14 Budget

- After submission of level funding budget and description of what 10% cut would remove from services provided WYFS has not received further news regarding FY 14 budget status.

Board Updates and Discussion

- General discussion of competitive climate in elementary and middle school years with parents considering sport and academic performance as part of college admission preparation – resume and skill building in early years. All agreed that this focus is most often detrimental to both learning and mental health.
- Ms. Seidman noted that families who are not able to access other mental health services are served by WYFS – this was noted as an important benefit to the town. Discussion involved her question if is possible to directly quantify the % of caseload who would not access services elsewhere.
- As the WaylandCares federal grant funding is due to expire in September 2013, discussion continues regarding sustainability if new grant is not approved (approval seen as unlikely given grant number reductions). Process continues to propose two new positions funded by the town to maintain some of the prevention programming the grant funding has supplied.

Next meetings: 01/11/13, 02/01/13, 03/01/13, 04/05/13, 06/03/13 07/07/13 to be held in small School Department hearing room.

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