

YOUTH COMMISSION MEETING
Westborough Youth and Family Services Office
Room 21, Forbes Municipal Building
45 West Main Street, Westborough, MA
June 13, 2011
7:34 PM to 8:35 PM

PRESENT: Tim Dodd, Michelle Grasso, Andy Rosenshine, Judith Tully, Cameron Mattheson,

ABSENT: Rachel Bridge, Kristin French, Ritika Lahoty, Oscar Najarian, Kasey Packer, Ali Strand

WYFS: John Badenhause, Director
Cathy Cairns, Administrative Assistant

7:34 PM: MEETING OPENED/ MINUTES REVIEWED

Michelle called the meeting to order and the May minutes were reviewed. Andy made a motion to accept the minutes, Judith seconded, and the minutes were accepted unanimously.

7:35 PM: REPORT FROM YOUTH MEMBERS

The Youth Members reported that the seniors have graduated and that final exams are coming up.

7:37 PM: REPORT FROM TIM DODD

Tim reported that the Town now has Facebook and Twitter accounts and that the next meeting to discuss the State's proposal for the Westborough State Hospital property is Thursday, June 16th. While the State's proposal featured heavy residential use, he supports more open space and recreational plans.

7:45 PM: INTERVIEW OF CASEY COLLINS FOR YOUTH MEMBER

Casey Collins is interested in becoming a Youth Member of the Youth Commission. She will be a junior this fall at the High School where she participates in Track and the Latin Club.

Michelle explained that the Youth Members attend monthly meetings and report on the happenings at the High School and offer the youth perspective to the group. Cameron added that being a Youth Member offers the opportunity to see how town government runs.

Casey said her family does foster care, so she has experience with kids who need help, and she wanted to offer her perspective to the group. She said one of her concerns is that some of her peers don't realize the negative side of social networking, and she feels that kids listen better when warnings come from other kids instead of adults.

Andy made a motion to accept Casey Collins for the position of Youth Member of the Youth Commission, Judith seconded, and the motion was accepted unanimously.

7:45 PM: INTERVIEW OF CHRISTINE ANTHONY FOR YOUTH COMMISSION

John explained the duties of the Youth Commission, and then each member offered their personal experience. Christine gave a brief overview of her background as an attorney dealing with domestic relations and child-related issues. She said she was glad to see the HSN program, since many families have to cut back on summer activities for their kids.

The group unanimously voted to recommend to the Selectman that they appoint Christine Anthony to the Youth Commission.

8:25 OTHER BUSINESS

The group decided to receive the monthly Youth Commission packets electronically as of September. Kristen French will not be returning to the Youth Commission in September, so it was decided to put out notices for another Youth Commission member, as well as another high school junior for the Youth Member position.

8:33 PM: MEETING ADJOURNED

NEXT MEETING – Monday, September 12, 7:30 PM