

YOUTH COMMISSION MEETING
Westborough Youth and Family Services Office
Room 21, Forbes Municipal Building
45 West Main Street, Westborough, MA
May 14, 2012
7:30 PM to 8:30 PM

PRESENT: Michelle Grasso, Patricia Ainsleigh, Cameron Mattheson, Andy Rosenshine, Christine Anthony, Oscar Najarian

ABSENT: Judith Tully, Ritika Lahoty, Casey Collins, Ali Strand

WYFS: John Badenhause, Director
Cathy Cairns, Administrative Assistant

7:36 PM: MEETING OPENED/ MINUTES REVIEWED

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

7:32 PM: REPORT FROM YOUTH MEMBERS

The youth members reported that social and sporting events are winding down at school. There was some discussion about the drug testing issue and whether or not it infringed on civil rights. Now, it appears that the Superintendant is not going to implement the procedure.

Michelle asked if WYFS should reach out and offer support to the family of the recent 4-year-old drowning victim. John said he will check to see if WYFS can help.

The group discussed the upcoming vote to build a new Fire Station, as well as the May 1st meeting that was to be a discussion about the Recreation Center, but instead focused solely on the Fire Station.

7:45 PM: DISCUSSION OF YOUTH MEMBER INVOLVEMENT

Michelle thanked Cam and Ritika for their service to the Youth Commission.

John reported we have letters of interest from two students who will be juniors this coming fall. They will be interviewed by the group at the June meeting.

The group asked Cam about his experience as a youth member of the YC and if he had any ideas on how to improve the experience of youth members. Cam suggested more hands on projects might help kids feel more involved. The group discussed that getting more detailed and specific information from the students about what's happening at the High School would be helpful, as well as encouraging students to give input in the HSN

program. The group also mentioned the possibility of WYFS being a resource for local summer jobs

8:20 PM: DISCUSSION OF GOALS 3&4

The group decided to postpone the discussions of Goals 3 and 4 until all adult YC members are present. At that time, the group could discuss a possible hands-on project for youth members for the fall.

8:29 PM: OTHER BUSINESS

Our new HSN coordinator started today, May 14th. Her name is Elizabeth Sricharoenchaikit. Hopkinton Youth Commission is interested in doing a HSN program and possibly share bus trips, etc.

The WYFS table at this year's Spring Festival didn't get much traffic and the group discussed whether or not to have a table there next year.

8:30 PM: MEETING ADJOURNED

NEXT MEETING – Monday, June 11th, 2012 at 7:30 PM