

YOUTH COMMISSION MEETING
Westborough Youth and Family Services Office
Room 21, Forbes Municipal Building
45 West Main Street, Westborough, MA
October 22, 2012
7:35 PM to 8:40 PM

PRESENT: Michelle Grasso, Judith Tully, Andy Rosenshine, Patricia Ainsleigh, Oscar Najarian, Jack Chuma, Casey Collins, Pranit Lahoty, Matt Murch.

ABSENT: Christine Anthony

WYFS: John Badenhause, Director
Cathy Cairns, Administrative Assistant

7:30 PM: MEETING OPENED

Michelle called the meeting to order. The September minutes were reviewed. Andy made a motion to accept the minutes, Judith seconded, and the minutes were accepted unanimously. Michelle suggested the members introduce themselves again.

7:37 PM: REPORT FROM YOUTH MEMBERS

The youth members spoke about Lizzi Marriott's murder as many knew her and Lizzie's brother is a junior.

John said he offered counseling assistance to the High School Principal. He said the High School has a good system of counseling set up, and didn't need our help.

Seniors are scrambling to get their college applications sent. The "Under the Lights" week starts tonight (week of October 22.) There will be soccer, field hockey, volleyball and football games. Attendees are asked to bring canned goods for the local food pantry. A Touchdown for America football game was held October 20. Attendees were asked to bring sunscreen and other toiletries to be sent to the troops serving overseas. All of the town sports teams are donating to this cause.

In an effort to increase the participation of the youth members, Michelle asked if the students could possibly become voting members of the Youth Commission—for example, the youth members combined would equal one vote. Commission voting members must be at least 18 years of age and registered voters. It was suggested that it might be a good project for the youth members to work on advocating for a stronger voice. It was decided that this issue needs to be discussed with the Board of Selectmen, and will be discussed at the next Youth Commission meeting since Selectman Tim Dodd plans to attend.

8:00 PM: DISCUSSION OF FY14 BUDGET

John explained the budget breakdown of FY14 (July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014) is salaries (people) and expenses (things.)

There were some amendments to the original version:

- 1) Page 1, under *Activities, Functions and Responsibilities*: The first line should read: "The Youth Commission is a 5 member board appointed by the Selectmen **and youth members...**"
- 2) Page 1, under *Goals & Priorities 2013-2014*: add "**Develop goals for youth members.**"
- 3) Page 3 (*FY2014 Salaries and Wages*): the # of weeks for John, Betheda and Eileen, should be **52.2** instead of 52; and the Weeks under Instructions should be **52.2** weeks for each employee, instead of 52.4 weeks.

Under the Expense Budget, John reported YFS saved approximately \$700 in the HSN budget by printing the brochures in-house; and saved approximately \$375 by printing the tri-fold brochures in-house. Because of these savings, he took \$450 out of special programs and put it into training and education. Counselors must take courses or attend seminars to keep their accreditation current. This year, the budget contains \$900 for education and training. Even with this change, the totals remain the same, keeping it a level funded budget. John explained the budget items and answered questions.

Andy suggested keeping track of the number of crisis management situations, as well as general community outreach (publicity, distributing pamphlets, and Depression Screening Day.)

Judith made a motion to accept the FY14 Budget with the above mentioned amendments, Andy seconded the motion, and the budget was approved unanimously.

8:40 PM: MEETING ADJOURNED

NEXT MEETING – Monday, November 26, 2012 at 7:30 PM