

YOUTH COMMISSION MEETING
Westborough Youth and Family Services Office
Room 21, Forbes Municipal Building
45 West Main Street, Westborough, MA
April 8, 2013
7:34 PM to 8:45 PM

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

WYFS: John Badenhause, Director
Cathy Cairns, Administrative Assistant

7:34 PM: MEETING OPENED

Michelle called the meeting to order. The March 2013 minutes were reviewed. Christine made a motion to accept the minutes, Andy seconded, and the minutes were accepted unanimously. Michelle congratulated the group on the passage of Article 15

7:36 PM: REPORT FROM YOUTH MEMBERS

John reported that the swearing in of the Youth Members as voting members of the YC went fine except that the Board of Selectmen got the number of years left on two of the kids' terms wrong. John reported it to the BOS but he hasn't heard back yet.

There was a Holocaust Remembrance Day ceremony, conducted by the Facing History Club, in the lobby of the High School as part of the National Holocaust Remembrance Day. Candles were lit to honor those killed in the Holocaust and the Westborough High School String Quartet and Chamber Singers performed.

Spring sports have begun.

Many of the high school bands won gold medals at the recent MICCA competition. There was a TEDx Youth Forum at the High School featuring Dr. Craig Mello, professor of molecular biology medicine at UMass Medical School, and a Nobel Prize winner for medicine; Ken Stafford, associate director of robotics engineering at WPI; and author Andrew Clements.

The Junior Prom will be held May 31 at Mechanics Hall.

The Senior Ball will be held in June.

Competition Day was held this past Thursday, as well as a field trip the MOMA

The seniors are busy applying for scholarships. Their college decisions must be made by May 1st.

7:55 PM: OTHER BUSINESS

The Rotary Spring Festival is Saturday, May 4. The group will set up a WYFS booth from 10AM until 1:30 (2:00) PM.

9:30-11:30 AM shift

John
Judith
Oscar
Pranit

11:30AM-1:30 PM shift

Michelle
Pranit (until 1:00PM)
John (if needed)

Pranit will provide the tent. Christine will provide snacks. Judith will provide Cliff Bars. Cathy will provide folding tables.

The WYFS booth will have HSN catalogs, newsletters, WYFS trifold brochures, Babysitter's Class List signup, You Go, Girl! materials.

Graduating Seniors

Judith suggested we recognize our graduating seniors at next month's meeting (May 13) since the June meeting occurs at a very busy time for seniors.

John said a notice for the open Youth Member positions on the YC will go out to the media soon.

Michelle Retiring

Michelle announced she will be retiring from the YC after her term expires this year. She has been serving on the YC for 12 years. Michelle said she is grateful for the experience and proud of the kids for getting Article 15 passed.

Judith said the School Committee wants feedback on their debate concerning the suspension of students from school and sports teams if they are even in the *presence* of alcohol.

8:20 PM: STRATEGIC PLAN DISCUSSION

The group discussed **Goal 1: Ensure ongoing funding for *Hot Summer Nights***, and whether or not it is still a necessity since the HSN program is now part of the WYFS Department's budget. The group also discussed making changes to the HSN program. The group decided to eliminate Goal #1 and keep the HSN program as it is (for grades 6-10.) They also want to explore the possibility of adding activities for older kids to Goal #4, in conjunction with other town organizations.

8:45PM: MEETING ADJOURNED

NEXT MEETING – Monday, May 13, 2013 at 7:30 PM