

**YOUTH COMMISSION MEETING**  
Westborough Youth and Family Services Office  
Room 21, Forbes Municipal Building  
45 West Main Street, Westborough, MA  
**June 10, 2013**  
**7:30 PM to 9:00 PM**

**PRESENT:** Michelle Grasso, Christine Anthony, Andy Rosenshine, Judith Tully, Patricia Ainsleigh, Oscar Najarian, Pranit Lahoty, Jack Chuma, Casey Collins, Meredith Wolpert, Gerad Sockol, Robert Stout, and Corbin Whitaker.

**ABSENT:** Matt Murch

**WYFS:** John Badenhause, Director  
Cathy Cairns, Administrative Assistant

**7:30 PM: MEETING OPENED**

Michelle called the meeting to order and she greeted the youth commission youth candidates. The May 2013 minutes were reviewed. Pranit made a motion to accept the minutes, Patricia seconded, and the minutes were accepted unanimously.

**7:35 PM: YOUTH COMMISSION CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS**

Pranit, Casey and Jack talked about their experiences on the YC. They all were happy to have been a part of the passage of Article 15 that gave the youth members the vote.

The four candidates introduced themselves: Meredith Wolpert, Gerad Sockol, Robert Stout, and Corbin Whitaker, and then spoke about their interests and activities.

Gerad said he heard about the YC positions from Pranit. He is interested in leadership possibilities and is involved in sports and academic activities.

Robert said he heard about the positions in history class. He has been involved in leadership roles in the Boy Scouts and is interested in town government. He is involved in sports and academic activities, and said he can speak his mind.

Corbin is new to Westborough and is interested in learning about the Town. He has lived in several places across the country and said he can provide a broad perspective on youth topics. He is interested in working with younger kids.

Meredith heard about the positions in history class. She is the chairperson of the community service organization at the high school. She is involved in National Honor Society, dance, and student council. She said she is open with her opinions. She is interested in government and helping others.

Pranit explained what happens at the YC meetings (review of minutes, youth reports, budget reviews and votes and brainstorming sessions.) He explained how the group pursued the passage of Article 15.

Last year, the YC main project was Article 15. The group needs to decide what this year's mission should be. Everyone agreed there should be brainstorming sessions on

how to create opportunities for high school kids that are substance free. Members suggested Teamworks, Panera and Boston Sports Club as possible event locations.

**8:05 PM:** The candidates decided they would leave the room while the YC discussed which two candidates would be selected. After much discussion, the YC decided that while all four candidates had great credentials, they would select Meredith and Corbin. The YC will have a student female voice in the group with Meredith and Corbin could help provide the fresh perspective of someone new to town. The YC also decided to invite Gerad and Robert to attend the YC meetings.  
John will send an official letter inviting all four students to the YC meetings.

Judith made a motion recommending Meredith Wolpert be appointed by the Selectmen as a voting member of the YC. Christine seconded, and the group voted unanimously to recommend Meredith Wolpert be appointed by the Selectmen as a voting member of the YC.

Judith made a motion recommending Corbin Whitaker be appointed as a voting member of the YC. Christine seconded, and five members of the group voted to recommend Corbin Whitaker be appointed by the Selectmen as a voting member of the YC. Pranit made a motion recommending Gerad Sockol be appointed as a voting member of the YC. Three members voted yes. The majority of votes went to Corbin Whitaker, who will be recommended to the Selectmen as a voting member of the YC.

Judith motioned that Gerad Sockol and Robert Stout be invited to join the YC as non-voting members. Pranit seconded the motion and the group voted unanimously to invite Gerad Sockol and Robert Stout to join the YC as non-voting members.

**8:30 PM:** All four YC candidates came back into the meeting. Michelle invited all four candidates to be a part of the YC. Michelle then announced that Meredith and Corbin were chosen to be recommended to the Selectmen as voting members.  
John will notify the Board of Selectmen and then Meredith and Corbin will be sworn in, most likely by the end of August on a Tuesday night.

**8:40 PM:** Judith made a motion to elect Andy Rosenshine as YC Chairperson. Christine seconded the motion and the group voted unanimously to accept Andy as YC Chairperson.

**8:45 PM: YOUTH REPORT**

The youth members said graduation and Project Graduation were fun events. Teachers are still assigning homework. Students participated in a mock Town Meeting.

**8:50 PM:** The group celebrated with cake and thanked Michelle Grasso for her years of service to the YC and presented her with a going-away gift. The group also congratulated the graduating seniors, Casey Collins and Matt Murch, and wished them good luck.

**9:00 PM: MEETING ADJOURNED**

**NEXT MEETING – Monday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at 7:30 PM**