

YOUTH COMMISSION MEETING
 Westborough Youth and Family Services Office
 Room 21, Forbes Municipal Building
 45 West Main Street, Westborough, MA
September 8, 2014
7:32 PM to 8:45 PM

YOUTH COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Patricia Ainsleigh, Arpita Joyce, Daniel Moon, Jorge Nario, Lauren Schiffman, Judith Tully, Corbin Whitaker,

YOUTH COMMISSION VOLUNTEERS PRESENT:

Katherine Burbank, Oscar Najarian, Gerard Sockol, Robert Stout

ABSENT: Meredith Wolpert

GUEST: Andy Rosenshine

WYFS: John Badenhause, Director
 Cathy Cairns, Admin. Asst.
 Stephanie Camille – WYFS Clinical Intern

7:32 PM: MEETING OPENED

Judith called the meeting to order. The June 2014 minutes were reviewed. Patricia made a motion to accept the minutes, Corbin seconded, and the minutes were accepted unanimously. Members of the group introduced themselves.

7:40 PM: YOUTH REPORT

Homecoming will be September 27, but there will not be a dance this year. “Under the Lights” (night games with lights) will run the week of September 15-19. The Senior Parade, held on the seniors’ first day, was changed by the administration so that the students didn’t run into the gym. Administrators said it created a sense of intimidation for the underclassmen. College application deadlines are approaching. Other local high schools have college counselors who specifically help seniors with college applications. Westborough High doesn’t. Some guidance counselors have been laid off.

7:55 PM: INTRODUCTION OF STEPHANIE CAMILLE

Stephanie Camille is the new clinical intern with the YFS office. She is a student at Framingham State University and has worked at Advocates with adult clients and will be working with kids here. Her schedule is:

Monday: 5 - 7:00 pm at YFS
 Tuesday: 7:30am - 2:30pm at the High School
 Wednesday: 5 - 9:00 pm at YFS
 Thursday: 9:00 am – 2:00 pm at YFS
 Stephanie is interested in the “What’s Up Tonight?” program.

7:57 PM: POLICY FOR REMOTE MEETING PARTICIPATION

John went over the policy that allows town board and committee members to participate in meetings via electronic media. There must be a quorum for any votes, excluding the member participating remotely, and members can only use the remote participation up to three times per year.

8:00 PM: WHAT’S UP TONIGHT?

John introduced Katherine Burbank, the senior citizen volunteer who will be working with this program.

John explained the program which will be designed by youth members and run with support from John, Katherine and a coordinator to be hired shortly. The position will have about 150 hours, from October through April.

A group is needed to review resumes and to set up and participate in interviews.

The group used the Hot Summer Nights ad as a template to create an ad for the What’s Up Tonight (WUT) position.

The youth members expressed some concern about the possibility of hiring someone in the school administration. They want to keep this program separate from any school activities, and if someone involved in the schools was hired, they worry that students wouldn’t get involved.

It was suggested getting feedback about the program from the larger student body.

Important points for the ad:

Relates well to high school kids

Good communication skills

At least 2 years of college

Willing to work collaboratively with a committee of students to design the program

Self-directed and organized

Consider posting the ad at colleges that have masters programs.

The hours for the position will include nights and weekends for the events (about 10 events overall, one to two events per month) but the planning can take place during the week.

The ad needs to run at least two weeks from September 12 through October 3. John will put a draft together then send it out to the YC via email for comment.

Dan, Robert, Corbin, Gerad, Jorge and Arpita volunteered to participate on the interview committee.

While John will have the ultimate hiring decision, the students will have input on the process. The students will put together questions to ask applicants beforehand.

There will be Facebook and Twitter accounts set up specifically for the WUT program.

8:36 PM: OTHER BUSINESS

Since October 20 (our previously scheduled YC meeting) is the night of the Town Meeting, the group decided to reschedule the October YC meeting to October 6 at 7:30 pm here in the YFS Office, Room 21.

8:45 PM: MEETING ADJOURNED

Corbin made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Jorge seconded it and the meeting was adjourned.

NEXT MEETING – October 6, 2014 at 7:30 PM.