

BARNSTABLE YOUTH COMMISSION MINUTES

January 23, 2014

Present: Elizabeth Ells, Colleen Morin, Nicole Neville, Samuel Spillane, Sally-Ann Imes, and Patti Machado.

The meeting was called to order at 2:15 pm.

1. The minutes of the last meeting were not available.
2. A follow-up discussion took place regarding the Town Council presentation and Recreation Commission meetings. Everyone was excited about the recent meeting. One of the main questions raised at the meeting was, what can be done to get more students involved in the Barnstable Youth Commission and attend more meetings. Sam Spillane mentioned stressing to students that it looks good on their resume for college even though it may not seem to be sincere. Also, having food (pizza) at the Youth Commission meetings would be a good idea. It was suggested to possibly move the day of the meeting so it does not conflict with other activities. Colleen suggested getting the guidance counselors more involved and providing them with a hand out about the Youth Commission. Mary Czajkowski is on board with the BYC having a voice and it was suggested to invite her to the February 27th meeting to discuss how she has helped other communities.
3. Elizabeth is concerned about attendance at the YES meeting tomorrow, January 24, because of it being held on a Friday. Sally spoke with Jean Calvert who will be sending someone in her place to attend the meeting. Patti will look into possibly having pizza from Casual Gourmet at the meeting to maybe bring in some kids from the Youth Center. Nicole stated that the food at Casual Gourmet is too expensive and deters people from having events at the HYCC. All Youth Commissioners plan on attending the meeting, with the exception of Sam who is not feeling well.
4. Follow up on the last BYC meeting about drug awareness is continuing.
 - Elizabeth talked to Ms. Gianetto about getting a story in the newspaper.
 - Elizabeth and Patti talked to Mary Czajkowski about the issue. Elizabeth liked what Dr. Czajkowski did in Agawam and how she got the community involved.
5. Colleen stated that only one band (Moving Picture House) is confirmed for Family Fun Night. She is waiting to hear from one other band. Sally knows of a couple bands, which she will contact. Bands are nice to have at Family Fun Night, but hard to book. It was agreed to have each band play for 40 minutes and not have all bands play one after another. It was also suggested to possibly talk to Ms. Gleason about making attendance at Family Fun Night an extra credit project for students as part of the Social Issue class at the high school. Each student who attends would get a stamp from each table they visit. Ten tables are reserved, so far. Elizabeth asked everyone at the meeting to try to find at least one more group.
6. Staff Report by Sally-Ann Imes;
 - Youth Helping Animals Program starts February 25th. There is a limit of 10 participants and they will be involved with the NECAA, as well as the MSPCA.
 - The Community Network presentation on February 11th will be an open discussion on drug awareness presented from the youth perspective and will include adult participation.

7. Patti handed out a flyer/survey from the Community Action Committee of CC & I on training for Youth Ambassadors & Adult Sponsors to help address the issue of homelessness amongst youth. There are currently 100 students at the high school living from couch to couch and they are not counted on the census. The training is being held on Monday, January 27, 6-7 pm, which may not be a good night due to mid-terms. The BYC can become involved by becoming an ambassador. They will be taking a van to various locations (mall) where kids hang out and asking them to fill out a survey regarding homelessness. The survey is kept anonymous and those that fill it out, as well as ambassadors, will receive a Dunkin Donuts \$10 gift card.

Elizabeth motioned to adjourn, Sam seconded. The meeting adjourned at 2:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Kim Slezak, Recreation Division.