

NEWTON YOUTH COMMISSION MEETING

JANUARY 4, 2006

MINUTES

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PRESENT: Joe DeVito (Chair), Rachel Corey, Catherine Ehrhardt, Donna Gordon, Matt Green, Peter Harrington, Brandon Harris, Sarah Laski, Noor Narula, Rachel Park, Stephanie Pelkowsky, Terance Sack, Robert Staulo

REGRETS: Anthony Bibbo, Richard Dyer, Officer Don Fleming, Joanne Kazarian, Stephan Ross, Sarah Sinicropi-Yao

STAFF: Beverly Droz

GUEST: Lt. Bruce Apotheker, Newton Police Department

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm. The agenda was reviewed. A motion was made to accept the 12/6/05 minutes.

Lt. Bruce Apotheker came to represent the Police Department and said that Officer Don Fleming has returned to work and will be back attending the Youth Commission meetings soon.

Treasurer's Report

There is \$1,389 left in the budget.

Youth Interagency Task Force Update

The Youth Services booklet is in the final draft stage and we expect to finish it this month. Bev will be meeting with the I.T. Department about web pages. As mentioned, based on an initial survey and feedback from youth service providers, Bev is compiling a general youth needs assessment report for the Mayor and Board of Aldermen this month. Peter brought in, and gave to Bev, a copy of the 2004 Boston Youth Study.

Spring Programs

FCD (Freedom from Chemical Dependency) will be held at NNHS on Monday, April 10, 2006.

At NSHS, it will be in conjunction with Wellness classes during February or March. Donna is looking at the week before February school vacation. A different theme is presented in each block.

Youth Foundation Subcommittee Report

The Committee will meet after this meeting to discuss their plans. Peter met the Chairman of the golf course and the facilities are available on Monday, May 15, 2005.

- \$55 per person, food extra, shirt extra.
- Cost would be \$125 per person.
- Get sponsors for each hole.
- Upfront money will be needed for printing.

- ❑ Would need enough people to pay for 18 holes (4 persons per hole).
- ❑ The event is geared for adults. They could call Fran Rice and plan something for youth. Peter will do that.
- ❑ Both high schools have golf clubs. Perhaps there can be a 3 pm T-off for students.
- ❑ Discussion on whether to start it this spring or not. Decision – yes. Planning Committee will meet on Tuesday, January 10, at 6 pm with Stephanie at Albemarle Field House.

Other Business

- ❑ Matt asked Lt. Apotheker about the resources for youth that replace the previous multi-services. Lt. Apotheker works closely with Debra D’Arcy, the Juvenile Probation Officer from Middlesex County Court, and with the schools, Riverside Mental Outreach, DSS, and whatever is needed.
- ❑ Discussion about changes in services and changes in the times – more publicity about crime. There’s more structure with organized sports, and more demand from parents for organized activities. The old multi-services model is no longer affordable.
- ❑ Stephanie Pelkowsky brought the Parks & Recreation Youth Awards nomination forms for the June 5 event. The Youth Commission with help with outreach for nominations, particularly through the schools. Peter requested that a Youth Commission member be on the judging panel. Mary Brown is the Parks & Rec. organizer and we can ask her.
- ❑ Parks & Rec. Department uses NNHS on weeknights and weekends to run programs for each season. They now use NSHS on Sundays for 10 weeks with specific programs. Students are involved with jobs assisting and staffing the activities so that it is a wonderful opportunity to keep teens busy.

Fundraising

Peter said the Democratic City Committee will have a Caucus on February 4 at Mason-Rice School. Maybe the Youth Commission can have a bake sale table. Peter will check with Martina Jackson, Chair of the Democratic City Committee, to find out.

Youth Services Booklet: Sara sent in a draft pencil drawing for the cover. Bev has some limits with the City Logo and formatting, and will discuss it with them. The booklet is geared for adults.

Youth Commission logo:

A contest will be held through the High School Arts Departments for students to do a logo design. Start date is March 1; due by April 15. Donna Gordon and Noor Narula will work on it at NSHS. Rachel Corey will do it at NNHS.

Bev acknowledged Brandon Harris and Sarah Laski who had attended the January 2, 2006 Inaugural at City Hall.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 1, 2006.