

# NEWTON YOUTH COMMISSION MEETING

FEBRUARY 1, 2006

## MINUTES

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**PRESENT:** Joe DeVito (Chair), Rachel Corey, Richard Dyer, Catherine Ehrhardt, Officer Don Fleming, Donna Gordon, Matt Green, Brandon Harris, Joanne Kazarian, Sarah Laski, Noor Narula, Stephanie Pelkowsky, Stephan Ross, Sarah Sinicropi-Yao, Robert Staulo

**REGRETS:** Anthony Bibbo, Peter Harrington, Rachel Park, Terance Sack

**STAFF:** Beverly Droz, Linda Walsh

**GUEST:** Kipaya Kapiya

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm and held in Room 222.

Beverly brought about 250 pieces of the NewtonSERVES Day of Community Service mailing and everyone pitched in and collated for the first ten minutes of the meeting.

The agenda was reviewed. A motion was made and passed to accept the 01/04/06 minutes.

### Spring Programs

FCD (Freedom from Chemical Dependency) will be held at NSHS on Wednesday, February 15.

The following workshops will be offered:

- *C3 (8:40-9:35) Concerts, Clubs, and Raves* – A look at the drugs consumed in these environments and the hidden dangers associated with ecstasy and other “rave drugs.”
- *G2 (9:45-10:40) Marijuana* – Marijuana’s reputation as a “soft” drug masks its potential for harm. This workshop covers such topics as the effects of marijuana on metabolism, hormones, memory, and motivation, and also looks at the social, emotional and intellectual cost of marijuana use.
- *E3 (11:15-12:30) When Alcohol Becomes a Problem* – This workshop describes the difference between experimentation, use, dependency, and addiction.
- *F2 (12:35-1:30) Helping a Friend* – What do you do when your friend’s drinking worries you? This workshop provides insights and strategies teens can use to guide friends or siblings toward help and support.
- *D3 (1:35-2:30) Stressed Out* – Many teenagers turn to alcohol and other drugs as a means of escape from the pressures they face. This workshop presents tips and techniques for dealing with stress and developing healthy living habits.

At NSHS, the FCD program is scheduled for Monday, April 10. Four workshops will be held: 8:50-9:45, 9:50-10:45, 12:25-1:20, and 1:25-2:20. Glenn Hall will be the presenter. Any member of the Commission is welcome to attend. Contact Jeanne White at 617-559-6407.

### Discussion - the Bake Sale at the Democratic Caucus

The Democratic Caucus will be held on Saturday, February 4, 2006 at the Brown Middle School, 125 Meadowbrook Road. Peter Harrington had worked with Martina Jackson to get permission for the Youth Commission to have a bake sale to raise funds for the FCD programs since our

City budget does not cover all the costs. The students can bring baked goods and beverages at 1:00 pm and set-up. Bob Staulo will also attend.

### **Youth Foundation Subcommittee Report**

Matt presented three versions of a brochure with a logo and asked for feedback. Questions came up about the wording in the brochure. It is just a draft and needs fine-tuning.

Joe reported on the following:

1. Currently in the process of setting up the legal aspects of the foundation.
2. Developing the specific criteria of where the money would go and the grant process.
3. Creating a plan of informing the community leaders about what they're doing.
4. The intention is not to "take over" other's turf but to establish a new base.

The golf tournament is temporarily postponed. The sub-committee will report back on it. It's a good idea but needs lots of time to plan it out.

The sub-committee will hold a meeting following the Youth Commission meeting.

### **New Business**

- Catherine reported on the Youth Committee of Needham. They're set up differently. She brought a flyer "Parents: Please Talk with Your Mouth Full" and described the program. The program will be held on Monday, March 20, 2006, from 6:00-8:00 pm. The cost is \$25 and participants must register in advance. The program includes food, discussion, and book. The contact person is Vikki Clair at 781-455-7518 x266, e-mail [vclair@town.needham.ma.us](mailto:vclair@town.needham.ma.us). Catherine left the flyer with Bev. She will contact the Needham Youth Commission for more information.

### **Other information**

- The balance in the Youth Commission's account is still \$1,389, but with FCD programs expected to cost \$1,500 we need to raise funds for the difference. Bev will look into a revolving account for the Youth Commission.
- A reminder that the next quarterly meeting of the Youth Interagency Task Force is March 7 from 10 to 11:30am at City Hall in Room 202.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 1, 2006 at 7:00pm in the cafeteria.