

NEWTON YOUTH COMMISSION Meeting

MAY 2, 2007 MINUTES

Location: Newton City Hall Cafeteria

Present: Peter Harrington (acting chair), Donna Gordon, Matt Green, Lisa Langone, Officer Jim O'Loughlin, Stephanie Pelkowsky, Stephen Ross

Students: Brandon Harris, Sarah Laski, Kira Mascho, Katie Sanders

Regrets: Anthony Bibbo, Joe DeVito, Richard Dyer, Kipaya Kapiga, Joanne Kazarian, Terance Sack, Robert Staulo

Staff: Beverly Droz, Director, Human and Volunteer Services

Guests: Sharon O. Stout (Human Rights Commission member), Greg Kelley (NNHS student), Kirsten Tuohy (NNHS teacher)

The meeting was called to order at 7:04pm and Peter Harrington chaired the meeting. Introductions were made and guests were welcomed.

Motion to approve minutes of April 4, 2007 was passed.

Treasurer's Report:

The balance in the operating budget is \$965.46. Bev is waiting for the FCD Seminar bill from NSHS of about \$360 to come, leaving a balance of about \$600. Those funds will be used toward the annual award dinner and general supplies. The revolving account balance is \$418.12. **Treasurer's report was accepted.**

Fundraising:

Matt and Rick asked if we were doing more fundraising for the revolving account. We don't expect to do so before the end of the fiscal year, 6/30/07. At the September meeting we'll discuss the calendar of events that present opportunities such as Parents Nights, and possible general public events where we may participate.

Programs:

Internet Safety:

Officer Jim O'Loughlin reported that Officer Spirito has been in touch with Joe about programs for middle schools.

Autumn Invasion:

Brandon, as an outgoing senior, worked on this event for two years. He reported that it takes organization and work to set it up, however, the main issue is getting high school students to show up. Kirsten Tuohy asked the purpose of the event. Katie said is a social gathering and showcases some of the school bands. Peter said there used to be resource tables. Matt said it unifies students from North and South high schools.

All students of the Commission help coordinate the event by meeting over the summer and planning it. Bev said adults are welcome to help the students. Sharon and Kirsten said they would help. At the June meeting we'll discuss the summer schedule.

5th Annual Youth Service Award Dinner:

Discussion of dates. Possible dates include:

Thurs 6/14, Tues 6/19 (cafeteria not available), Wed 6/20, Thurs 6/21, May 31- last resort. The first selection for the Youth Services award is Officer John Panica. Bev will contact him. There was a discussion about catering the event. Bev will talk the City Hall Garden Café.

Other business:

- Donna reported that Newton Community Service Center will hold a fall forum on Risky Behaviors. Donna will send Bev the info about the June 8th planning committee and we'll have some Youth Commission members attend.
- Katie reported that today at NSHS, the Peer Education Committee sponsored an Assembly on Drunk Driving. Every junior was supposed to attend but Kira reported that not all went.
- Officer O'Loughlin said they had had a demolished car donated and it is on display at NNHS. Kirsten said there is corresponding education for the students to go with the damaged car. The program includes drunk-driving issues and what the consequences can be such as brain injuries, criminal records, and much more.
- Stephanie reported that the Parks and Recreation Youth Awards are coming up. The information will go to Bev and she'll email it to all.

Youth Foundation Subcommittee:

Peter requested that at the June meeting, Joe De Vito report on his meeting with Alderman Vicki Danberg.

Stephen Ross reported that Noam Chomsky spoke at NSHS a few weeks ago. Stephen was saddened to learn that there is such anti-Semitism around. There was a general discussion about the Noam Chomsky Lecture.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

The next meeting will be the Youth Award Dinner in June - date to be announced.