

NEWTON YOUTH COMMISSION MEETING

OCTOBER 5, 2005

MINUTES

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PRESENT: Joe DeVito (Chair), Rachel Corey, Rick Dyer, Catherine Ehrhardt, Donna Gordon, Peter Harrington, Brandon Harris, Sarah Laski, Noor Narula, Rachel Park, Sarah Sinicropi-Yao

STAFF: Beverly Droz

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm. A motion was made to accept the 9/7/05 minutes.

Youth Interagency Task Force Update

The first meeting of the Y.I. Task Force was held on 9/20/05 at the Newton Library. About 30 youth services providers attended, representing Newton non-profits, community service agencies and city departments. All seemed encouraged at the effort to network around youth issues and agreed to meet on a quarterly basis. While most discussion focused on teens, other youth age groups were addressed. The participants brainstormed ideas but overall were in agreement that educational resources to the public, such as Youth Resources pages on the City's website and a Youth Services Resource booklet, should be an initial action step over the next 6 months. More extensive minutes from the meeting are available. Joe DeVito represented the Youth Commission. Bev is the co-chair of the task force with colleague Linda Walsh, and is the primary staff person for its coordination. The next meeting is Dec. 6 at the YMCA.

Autumn Invasion 2005 Report & Open Discussion

Noor: Pretty set with a variety of good donations but worried about pizza.

Joe: Work out something with a pizza place for a reduced cost.

Brandon: Two bands from NNHS, 3 from NSHS, but looking at how to share drums.

Noor: Meeting with bands this Sunday to discuss.

Joe: They worked it out nicely last year.

Noor: Working on a banner and getting decorations.

Brandon: Raffle to benefit Katrina Hurricane relief. They'll have small gift certificates to raffle off every hour between bands.

Noor: Place changed to War Memorial side of City Hall (instead of front of City Hall). Stair landing will serve as staging. Food will be outside. Side door is right there for use of bathrooms, so overall minimum use of City Hall.

Bev: If rain, option is to use inside the Auditorium. She'll check on health permit.

Joe: Food arrives between 11am and 12. First band will be here at 11 am. Start set up at 10 am.

Bev: Need to discuss logistics of set up and picking up food.

Joe: Bring several student volunteers to help out.

Donna: PR? She needs flyers by Friday.

Bev: Will do Press Release to TAB 10/7.

Brandon: Will be MC to raffle things between the bands.

Joe: Event is a reflection on the Youth Comm., so tell bands “content appropriate.” Bands bring their electric cords, etc.

Further discussion of logistics of drinks, ice, buckets. Several commissioners said they will be there to help.

Joe: What if we tried to create a “Hands Around the Hall” with youth at City Hall on 10/16. Nice idea but the students didn’t think it would work.

Youth Foundation Report by Peter

Start a foundation to raise money for youth programs. Create category list for types of grants we’d have. Foundation would be managed by Youth Commission with an Advisory Board from outside to help raise money. Goal is to raise \$50,000 per year.

Idea of Golf tournament: Judy gave him “how to do” packet. Use the Commonwealth Golf Course. Some details include:

- \$150 per person minus \$70 expenses = \$80 net.
- 4 persons per golf hole x 18 holes
- Plus charge for sign @ each hole (cost \$25)
- Could raise \$5 to \$10K.
- Ad Book could raise more money; could have a raffle.
- We could do May or June (Mon. through Thurs.), but need to pick a day.
- Need adult and student to help.
- Peter is willing to coordinate it.
- Catherine suggested students could caddy.

Peter: Commissioners of Youth Commission would be on the board of the Foundation by virtue of being on the Youth Commission. They, with an Advisory Board, would run it and determine process for grants, applications, timelines, etc.

Bev: Expressed concern about staff time needed, given both the task-event and for all the paperwork for the Foundation’s functioning.

Peter: Thinks it can be handled by the Foundation and he will help set it up.

Additional Items

Bev: Reminder that the spring educational seminars in high school are part of mission. We can discuss further at November meeting.

Donna: Youth Commission can help more with NewtonSERVES Day of Community Service.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 2, 2005.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.