

NEWTON YOUTH COMMISSION MEETING

DECEMBER 6, 2005

MINUTES

.....

PRESENT: Joe DeVito (Chair), Rachel Corey, Rick Dyer, Matt Green, Peter Harrington, Brandon Harris, Sarah Laski, Noor Narula, Rachel Park, Stephan Ross, Terance Sack, Sarah Sinicropi-Yao

REGRETS: Anthony Bibbo, Catherine Ehrhardt, Officer Don Fleming, Donna Gordon, Joanne Kazarian, Stephanie Pelkowsky, Robert Staulo

STAFF: Beverly Droz

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm. The agenda was reviewed. A motion was made to accept the 11/2/05 minutes.

The grant for Tobacco Use Prevention became public after the last YC meeting. Bev reviewed it but found it very geared toward low socio-economic communities. That fact, in addition to the tight timeline, made it not feasible to pursue it.

Treasurer's Report

Beverly reported that custodial costs for the use of City Hall for the Autumn Invasion event in October came to \$684, which leaves a balance of \$1,389. The cost of FCD seminars are \$700 each. We may need to fundraise.

Youth Interagency Task Force Update

The Task Force met on 12/6/05 at the West Suburban YMCA. The members discussed the results of the Needs Assessment Survey and recommended three top priorities. A draft of the Youth Services Booklet was distributed and discussion focused on how to disseminate the information including having it on the City's website. The next meeting of the Task Force will be held on March 7, 2006. The Youth Commission is a sponsoring agency of the YITF.

Bev passed around a copy of the booklet. Peter referred to a previous booklet from 1999-2000 which provided information on drug & alcohol prevention, rules for parents, MADD contacts and resources. He suggested that some of that information be included. Matt will look for a copy of the booklet.

Stephan reiterated the need for good PR when the booklet/website is made public. There was further discussion about including more resources, letting kids write some pages. Peter suggested a design contest for the cover. Noor Narula and Sara Sinicropi-Yao said they will work on the cover design.

The goal is to have booklet and the youth pages on the website available to the public by the Spring of 2006.

Spring Programs

Joe reported that we are okay to proceed with Freedom from Chemical Dependency programs. FCD programs run all day. Classes rotate in 55-minute blocks. A presenter is there to talk about recovery. The cost is \$700 per seminar. Last year about 100 students attended each block, so that means it reaches about 600 students. Donna Gordon (NSHS) and Jean White (NNHS) will coordinate it with FCD. Bev will e-mail to confirm with them.

Fundraising

Students will plan a fundraiser, such as a bake sale, to raise money for the Youth Commission. They'll bring back a plan for next January's meeting.

Other Business

Peter brought up that Parks & Recreation does an annual Youth Awards program. The Youth Commission should make recommendations to the Parks Department for recipients.

Peter reminded us about the idea for a contest for a logo for the Youth Commission. Students will ask the Art Departments at their schools and report back.

The Youth Foundation has been meeting and they will meet after this meeting. They will report in at the January meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 4, 2006.