

NEWTON YOUTH COMMISSION Meeting

February 4, 2009 MINUTES

Location: Newton City Hall Cafeteria

Present: Anthony Bibbo, Joe De Vito (Chair), Donna Gordon, Matt Green, Peter Harrington, Police Officer Jeffrey Mace, Ellen Manning
Students: Allison Clott, Annie Staulo

Regrets: Marianne Cook, Richard Dyer, Chris Fortunato, Joanne Kazarian, Stephanie Pelkowsky, Stephen Ross, Terance Sack, John Staulo, Robert Staulo, Kirsten Tuohy
Students: Sam Arsenault, Maya Guttman, Greg Kelley, Jennie Krems, Tamra Matama, Zoe Pepper-Cunningham, Kyle Russo, Adam Sangiolo, Ariana Tabatabaie

Staff: Beverly Droz, Director, Human and Volunteer Services

Guests: none

The meeting was opened at 7:05pm and chaired by Joe De Vito.

Introductions were made.

A motion to accept the minutes of January 7, 2009 passed.

Treasurer's report: The balance of the current operating budget is \$2,086.89 - leaving us funds to run 2 FCD seminars. The revolving account balance is \$786.12 and Bev expects to make another deposit in mid-Feb., from water bottle & soda sales. **A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report passed.**

PROGRAMS

FCD Seminars

- At the last meeting, we agreed to again sponsor FCD (Freedom from Chemical Dependency) seminars in both high schools.
- Donna Gordon stated it could happen in March at NSHS. Jeanne White would be in charge of scheduling it at NNHS.
- We'd need to ask FCD for permission if we could have New TV tape the speakers. Peter H. and Bob S. could contact New TV once they have the information.

March Madness

- Donna reported that Newton South High School field house is reserved for Sunday, March 29 from 10:30am to 2:30pm. The cost will be \$275.
- We'll need posters and sign-up forms. We should also have a liability form per player, and Peter H. will help work on this.
- Teams will pay \$25 to register and there are up to 5 players on a Team. Teams will be boys or girls, grade 9 and 10, and grade 11 and 12. No more than 1 varsity player per team.
- We will need general advertisement about the event. Students and teachers can help promote it within the high schools. It would be good to have sign-up tables in the cafeterias.
- Terry Sack will know about the "Rules" of play.
- Alison C. volunteered to write the application.
- Once Bev has it, she can have it posted on the City's Youth web-pages, and Donna and Kirsten can get it posted on the high school sites.
- It was suggested to ask varsity teams to be the coaches and referees. Referees will need whistles, and Annie S. can donate them.

- ❑ Annie can also get score pads, and Youth Commission members can keep score!
- ❑ We discussed having 2 games going on at a time since there is a half court. Teams can rotate.
- ❑ Donna will talk to the Athletic Director and to Home Room teachers.
- ❑ Officer Jeff Mace will ask youth officers if they are available to be referees.
- ❑ We discussed the giving of awards – that each Team receives something for participating. We don't have the funding to purchase awards for the winning teams. But if this event is successful, it will lead to potential for business sponsorship in the future.
- ❑ Tony suggested the idea of having a contest for making a logo, and then making T-shirts. Again, this is an idea to build on in the future.
- ❑ The goal is to have each high school provide 35 to 40 kids to participate for a total of 70 to 80.
- ❑ Registration forms and money would need to be collected at the schools, perhaps by Youth Commission students, and then given to Donna (NSHS) and Kirsten (NNHS) respectively. The deadline would need to be Monday, March 23 before the event on March 29.
- ❑ What about injuries? Officer Mace said he is a 1st responder and that he and other officers could deal with an emergency should it arise.
- ❑ Spectators could pay \$1.00 admission to help us cover costs.

Fundraising

Matt Green hosted a fundraising meeting on Jan. 21. Three projects are currently under consideration in the progress to begin fund raising for the Newton Youth Commission:

Project 1: Put together a calendar of city wide events that the fund raising committee could attend and sell products or accept donations for the Youth Commission. Some ideas included: Summer Carnival in Nonantum at Hawthorne Park; Craft Fair in Newton Center; Newton Highlands Neighborhood Fair; The Waban Neighborhood Fair; Back to School Nights at both Newton North High School and Newton South High School; 8th Grade Step up day; Sporting Events at the High Schools; Events sponsored by Parks and Recreation.

Tamra volunteered to talk to students at NNHS and begin recruiting them to attend these events. Rick Dyer volunteered to talk with Donna Gordon about events we could attend at Newton South High School. Rick also volunteered to speak to the Leadership and Diversity teachers to find out if the students in that class might want to participate in this project.

Project 2: Dance Marathon: Begin to recruit students at the high schools who would be willing to plan a dance marathon as a fund raiser for the Youth Commission. Tamra volunteered to speak to physical education teachers as possible recruiters for this project.

Project 3: Fundraiser at Peter Harrington's home: Plan and hold a fundraiser for adults interested in helping fund raise for the Youth Commission; Peter also is investigating how the Youth Commission can create an endowment fund instead of a "Foundation".

Announcements

Ellen described the Mentoring Director position at Newton Community Service Center as part of the Safe Schools/Healthy Students grant. Debbie Tyson-Gottlieb is the new director and is looking for adult mentors who would put in about 6 hours per month for at least a half year commitment. Ellen will send a description for Bev to email to the whole Youth Commission.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, MARCH 4 at 7:00pm in the City Hall cafeteria.

Respectfully submitted by Beverly Droz