

YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES COMMISSION

Minutes

October 2, 2018

Meeting

Present: Tyler Booth, Bevan Moore, Ann Purcell Murray, Bonnie Fierravanti, Natalie Cook, Rev. Larissa Forsythe, Kreg O'Brien, Pastor Mat Samuelson, Lillian Tanski

Excused: Angela Phelan, Ann Mount, Anna Carlson, Sam Wilcox. Karen Boisvert, Jason Stankowski

Staff Present: Durlene Mikkelson, Ginny Burgess, Robert Haswell

Meeting called to order at 6:32 pm by Bevan Moore, Chairperson.

Minutes:

Tyler Booth made a motion to accept the September 4, 2018 minutes as written. Motion seconded by Bonnie Fierravanti. Motion Approved. Voting "yes" were Tyler Booth, Bevan Moore, Ann Purcell-Murray, Bonnie Fierravanti and Natalie Cook.

Substance Abuse Prevention Coordinator Introduction/Report:

Robert Haswell introduced himself as the new Substance Abuse Prevention Coordinator at Youth and Family Services. He provided information about his background working in a residential treatment center in Waterbury, CT before coming to Youth and Family. Robert reported working in the treatment side of substance abuse for ten years. He related he is passionate about prevention, treatment and advocacy. He has been getting to know people in town and has been developing programming for every age group, from the elementary level through seniors.

Commission Members report:

Update on Arts and Crafts Drive- 325 Years Celebration:

Ann Purcell-Murray reported that they collected \$181.00 in donations at the 325 years celebration. She related most of the donations came from older people who believe that art is important in the lives of children. The commission members discussed other opportunities/events to collect donations for the arts and crafts studio. Some suggestions were the Apple Fest, the fall play, Hopewell Fair and donations from other organizations such as churches. Youth and Family Staff will check to see if the Hopewell Fair, held on October 19th may be an appropriate venue to raise donations.

Progress on setting up Community Service Opportunities:

A commission member reported that House of Bread is really not interested at this time but Hand on Hartford may be an option. Rev. Forsythe mentioned that there may be monthly volunteer

opportunities through South Church for youth to get involved in. Also suggested by commission members were PAL, the Hawk Wing organization and Intercommunity Recovery House.

Open Agenda:

Youth and Family staff asked the commission if they wanted to look at other goals at this time. Commission members stated that they wanted to focus on current goals and follow them through before picking another goal. Also discussed was looking at ways to help more children develop leadership skills and whether the youth organizations at the churches would have a need for Robert to do some prevention work.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Natalie Cook, Secretary