

YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES COMMISSION

Minutes

May 29, 2018

Special Meeting

Present: Tyler Booth, Natalie Cook, Ann Mount, Bevan Moore, Ann Purcell Murray, Bonnie Fierravanti, Rev. Larissa Forsythe, Pastor Mat Samuelson, Lillian Tanski, Sam Wilcox, Ann Carlson

Excused: Karen Boisvert, Angela Phelan, Durlene Mikkelsen, Kreg O'Brien

Staff Present: Ginny Burgess, Clinical and Outreach Supervisor

Meeting called to order at 6:08 pm by Ginny Burgess, Liaison running the meeting in Lieu of the Chair.

Introductions: Members of the Commission went around the table and introduced themselves.

Election of Officers:

Tyler Booth made a motion to nominate Bevan Moore as Chair of the Commission. The motion was seconded by Ann Mount. Motion approved. Voting "yes" were Natalie Cook, Tyler Booth, Ann Mount, Ann Purcell Murray, Bonnie Fierravanti and Bevan Moore.

Tyler Booth made a motion to nominate Natalie Cook as Secretary of the Commission. The motion was seconded by Ann Mount. Motion Approved. Voting "yes" were Ann Mount, Ann Purcell Murray, Bevan Moore, Tyler Booth, Natalie Cook and Bonnie Fierravanti.

Meeting Dates and Times:

Bevan Moore made a motion to have the commission meetings start in July. In July, the meeting will be held the second Tuesday starting at 6:30pm. After that, the meetings will be held the first Tuesday of each month starting at 6:30pm. Bonnie Fierravanti seconded the motion. Motion approved. Voting "yes" were Natalie Cook, Tyler Booth, Ann Mount, Ann Purcell Murray, Bevan Moore and Bonnie Fierravanti.

Goals of Commission:

The following goals were presented to the commission by Ginny Burgess for consideration. Each goal was read and discussed. Below is list of possible goals:

1. The town has a volunteer group called GCAP (Glastonbury Community Action Partnership) that assists with prevention programs. Our Substance Abuse Prevention Coordinator position is a liaison to the group. They need help with recruiting new members and with planning, implementing and marketing programs for town residents.

2. Our Arts and Crafts Studio is complete. We are in need of art supplies for both children and their families to use. We would welcome help in fundraising or obtaining donations from residents, businesses or perhaps a grant.
3. We have a diversion program the Glastonbury Police Department diverts first time offenders who are youth. They typically need to do community service and there is a counseling component. We also have a youth Service Action group that would like to do more volunteer work. We need help in finding meaningful community service and enlisting settings that need and accept volunteers.
4. We could use help with publicity in general for the programs we offer at Youth and family Services. We typically have advertised on the town website, in the citizen and in the park and rec catalog with often little response.
5. We are in need of ideas/suggestions for more meaningful intergenerational programming.

The goals were discussed and many questions were asked by the commission members in regard to programs offered through Clinical Services, Outreach Services, Creative Experiences and Substance Abuse Prevention. The members made suggestions of additional ways to market our programs at Youth and Family including programs offered in the summer. Also discussed were ways to find more meaningful community service. Commission members agreed to review list and decide what they would like to work on.

Additional questions were asked by members in regard to the number of clinical staff, outreach staff and creative staff. Members discussed the play and how many children get involved with it. Also discussed were the caseloads of the clinical staff and the groups they do in schools. Ginny Burgess reported that we currently have three full-time clinicians in addition to her as the Clinical Supervisor. The agency is in the process of hiring a full-time Clinical Social Worker, a full-time Clinical Social Worker and Substance Abuse Prevention Coordinator and two part-time Mental Health Clinicians. Members asked questions about the programs that are offered at Youth and Family and approximately how many participants are in each program/group. Commission members discussed collaborating more with the schools to get the word out about the programs we offer.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Natalie Cook, acting Secretary