

Holliston Youth Advisory Council

Present: Darlene Vittori-Marsell (Chair), Margaret Fitzpatrick, Kathy Cumming, Holly Fischer-Engel, Lynne Rahim, Peggy Payne, Jen Liebermann, John Drohan, Jean Vazza (Prospective New Member), Charlie Coughlin.

Absent: Kassandra Couseillant, Tyler Dunn, Andrew Frimpong.

Opening Remarks:

Kathy made a motion to open which was seconded by Charlie. Having a motion and a second, Council members unanimously agreed to open this meeting.

Peggy made a motion to accept the September minutes which was seconded by Charlie.

Director's Report:

1. The school year is in full swing. Jackie is getting new clients and has started Drop In at the High School. Margaret is also seeing more clients, and both have been seeing clients at the High School again.
2. Margaret met with board member John Drohan to discuss the Community Action Fund (CAF) and how it might once again go forward but without the Holliston Business Association being solely responsible for fund raising. John will be exploring some possibilities.
3. Margaret attended a meeting with the YMCA (? Part of Framingham Y) advisory board regarding implementing the ABC grant that they have been awarded for young children and families in Ashland, Hopkinton and Holliston. They are at the very beginning of the grant and are in the process of doing a needs assessment and compiling a comprehensive list of resources in each town. An outcome they would like to see is an increase in awareness of what each town offers to build a working network between the towns for the benefit of children and families.
4. Margaret also met with Meg Camire, HPS Student Services Administrator. They reviewed their involvement and looked at ways to further collaborate. Margaret will participate in a provider meeting in Medway tomorrow, co-hosted by Holliston and Medway schools. YFS will participate when possible in the monthly meetings that the schools support staff conduct. As well, the possibility of having Drop In at the Middle School was discussed.

New Business:

1. Jean Vazza, (Prospective Board Member) was introduced to the group by Kathy. It was great to meet Jean but unfortunately, at this time the board is at a full complement.
3. Darlene reiterated the need for 5 members to be in attendance for a quorum. Andrew is interested in continuing on the board but is in a class on Mondays thru December. The board agreed to change meeting days for a few months to accommodate Andrew. As well, she reached out to Kassandra and Tyler re: attendance. Tyler has not been getting notices as we have had the wrong email for him. Darlene explained to both that students need to be present at 8 of 10 YFS meetings.
4. Lynne commented on the upcoming visit of Dr. Ruth Potee (sponsored by HDAAC and PTO) on November 8th. Dr.Potee is a phenomenal speaker and a board certified addiction specialist who has been on the lecture circuit and will speak to parents and students about substance abuse and addiction.

Closing Remarks: Peggy motioned to adjourn the meeting and Charlie seconded.

Next Meeting: The next YFS board meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 15th, 2017 at the YFS office, 1750 Washington Street, at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted By: Lynne Rahim