

## HOLLISTON YOUTH & FAMILY ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

November 16, 2020 at 7:00 PM via Zoom meeting

**Advisory Council Members Present:** Jen Lieberman, Lynne Rahim, Peggy Payne, Alison Quinans, Kate Cunningham, Stephanie Farrell, Brian Sahajian, Kathy Cummings

**Absent:** John Drohan

**YFS Staff in Attendance:** Jackie Winer, Kirsten Rancourt, 20/21 Interns: Carrie Buddington, Will Sullivan

Opening Statement: Remote participation; Roll Call; Recording will be posted

-Motion to open the meeting: Allison Quinan

Second: Kate Cunningham

-Motion to accept the October 2020 Minutes: Lynne Rahim

Second: Kathy Cummings

### General Business:

#### 1. Welcome to potential new members.

Matt Putvinsky: Three children, two in the high school, one in college.

#### 2. Review of October 2020 minutes.

#### 3. Director's Report.

John Drohan has been nominated for a Humanitarian Award for his efforts during the pandemic.

Increase in services primarily related to financial needs. There are 42 clients seen weekly. Additionally, there are many clients who are provided with assistance in navigating services.

The coalition is sponsoring with YFS a remembrance event for community members lost to addiction. The event will end with an interfaith prayer service.

YFS participated in a number of different trainings over the past month.

Funding for a grant writer has been approved by the Selectboard and will fall under budget adjustment for the coming year. It will go to town meeting in December. Melissa will be managing the grant writer – Drug Free Communities Grant is a federal

grant. It provides \$625,000.00 over 5 years with strategic prevention of a specific substance. Primary prevention strategies

New Business:

1. Rent and Mortgage Relief Update:

- As of 11/1/20 we began a second round of funding for Rent & Mortgage Relief. So far 4 applications are in, 3 have been approved and checks have been mailed.
- \$25,000 available to community members who are in need. They have about 7 or 8 slots left. They are trying to prioritize families.

2. Update on Community Action Fund.

- This month the CAF paid a total of **\$1,216.07** towards utilities assistance for community members in need.

3. HDAAC Update – funding for grant writer brought to BOS.

4. Updates from Student Advisory Board Members – Students reported that there were a few COVID cases at HHS but that overall they feel that things are being handled well.

5. Recruitment for new board members – Peggy will invite Kristen Haddad to December meeting as a prospective new member.

6. Reminder to members who need to be sworn in; process reviewed with Matt. All members need to take the state ethics test and email the certificate to Liz Greendale (test is taken every 2 years).

7. Any other updates or information - None

Next Meeting: Monday, December 14, 2020 via Zoom

-Motion to close the meeting: Lynne Rahim, Second: Alison Quinan

Respectfully Submitted By:

Peggy Payne Secretary, HYFS