

HOLLISTON YOUTH & FAMILY ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

7:00 pm – Monday March 8, 2021 (via Zoom) 1750 Washington Street, Holliston, MA

Advisory Council Members Present: Jen Lieberman, Lynne Rahim, John Drohan, Peggy Payne, Matt Putvinski, Kathy Cummings, Alison Quinan, Kate Cunningham, Stephanie Farrell, Brian Sahajian

Absent: Kristin Haddad, Carrie Buddington (Intern)

YFS Staff in Attendance: Jackie Winer, Kirsten Rancourt, Will Sullivan (Intern)

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

-Motion to open the meeting: Alison Quinan
Second: Peggy Payne

General Business:

1. Review of February 2021 minutes.

-Motion to open the accept the January minutes: John Drohan
Second: Lynne Rahim

2. Director's Report.

- Participated in Mindshare training with Tonia Walker.
- EMDR training (specialized treatment approach for individuals who have experienced trauma/anxiety).
- Staff participated in Therapy Training Boston.
- Director participated in AGOs Food Insecurity forum.
- Kirsten attended MGH Training for Treating Addictions
- MetroWest Youth Directors Meeting

Program updates:

Temporary position is now posted on the town website.

COVID Art & Remembrance Project in collaboration with Self-Esteem through Art (Jean Pipe) will be up and running soon. This is a way for us to collectively remember together.

Data Report: 7 New referrals; 52 clients, 3 court diversion clients.

Court diversion clients created lawn signs for suicide awareness with positive mental wellness messages as well as resources for help and prevention.

New Business:

1. FY22 Budget Review w/Select Board
FinCom & Selectboard meetings were successful for budget requests. Director attended.
2. Appointment of Kristen H. by Select Board
3. Rent and Mortgage Relief - Vote to support another round of funding
 - So far there have been two rounds of rent and mortgage relief that supported 27 families in total.
 - There is still CARES money available at the town level. This vote is to bring a request forward to the Selectboard, requesting additional funding to support rent and mortgage relief. This funding has been especially beneficial for families who don't meet the income requirements for poverty guidelines.

Motion to bring forward a request to the Selectboard for a 3rd round of \$25k funding from the CARES money: Alison Quinan

Second: Kate Cunningham

Vote: 7/7 all in favor.

4. Community Action Fund Update.
Card drive thanking local food vendors.
Increasing awareness in our community.
5. HDAAC Update. Meeting 3/9/21 at 6:30.
6. Updates from Student Advisory Board Members.
 - Fewer tech issues, hearing rumors about everyone going back, some students almost feel nervous about going back because they're in the routine of school. While students are excited at the thought of things going back to full time in school, they wonder why not just keep things the way they are through the end of the year.
 - YFS director will connect with HHS to encourage more communication with student body around increasing in person learning as well as helping to support students who may feel uncomfortable with the accelerated nature of re-opening.

7. Any other updates or information.

Motion to adjourn the meeting: Lynne Rahim

Second: Alison Quinan

Next Meeting: Monday, April 12th at 7:00 pm via Zoom

Respectfully Submitted By:

Peggy Payne

Secretary YFS Advisory Council