



TOWN OF MANSFIELD
OFFICE OF THE YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU

Patricia Michalak, MA Youth Service Bureau Coordinator
Mansfield YSB Advisory Board Minutes
Tuesday May 11, 2010 12:00pm at Mansfield Town Hall Conference Room B

Board Members:

Present: Ethel Mantzaris, Chair
Frank Perrotti, Co-Chair
Patricia Michalak, YSB Coordinator
Eileen Griffin, Social Worker
Jay O'Keefe, Parks & Recreation
Jerry Marchon, Police Officer
Jeff Smith, Board Member
Teri Hebert, Board Member
Amber Hoyt, EO Smith Student
Jen Abele, EO Smith Student
Lauren DiGrazia, Graduate MSW Intern

Guest:

Dan Mainiero, Resident State Trooper

Proceedings

Meeting called to order at 12:00pm by Chair, Ethel Mantzaris
April 13, 2010 meeting minutes were accepted and approved

- -Report from YSB Coordinator, Patricia Michalak
- -Patricia Michalak discussed the recent activities of the YSB.
- -Activities include the following:
 - Challenge: The list has been completed
 - Volunteer Recognition event: The YSB staff hosted an end of the year barbeque for students who had worked in our programs all year. Ethel Mantzaris, Chair, did all of the grilling. It was a great event with nearly 100 percent participation from our students. Many of these students will be returning next year to continue their work.
 - Big Friends Mentoring Program: This group went to the Dairy Barn for their end of the year event. The big friend's painted frames and children were given a picture of themselves with their mentors. During this time the parent's group also met. It was a successful year and more than half of the mentors will be returning next year.
 - Cope: This group celebrated the end of the year. All of the participants were given tee shirts and the 4th graders made speeches about what they had learned in Cope and their accomplishments.
 - Jump: A graduation was held in this group. Special thanks to Ken Caputo from Villari's of Storrs for his wonderful work with these students.

- Grandparents as Parent's Group: There was a large group of grandparents that came out to ask questions of Judge Twerdy. Most of the questions involved the rules, regulations, and rights grandparents had while raising their grandchildren.
- SW Research and Scholarship Exhibition: Patricia Michalak attended the UConn School of Social Work's first annual social work research and scholarship exhibition. The YSB is looking for students who will want to work with us on Results Based Accountability designs.
- Ph.D. student: Our Ph.D. student, Sevan Angelican, is going to be researching and writing her dissertation on the Cope program. This is very exciting for the YSB. She will be working on expanding the Cope curriculum over the next year.
- School of Social Work: The YSB has contacted the UConn School of Social Work to request two more students for the next academic year. We are looking for students with a concentration in administration and group work. This year's graduate intern program has been a great success.
- List Meeting: Patricia Michalak & Jerry Marchon discussed LIST, Local Inter Agency Team. This program serves the catchment area of the Willimantic Juvenile Court district serving 23 towns. It is designed to evaluate and coordinate prevention, early intervention and treatment programs for youth in an effort to reduce court system involvement of youth.
- New Business
- -Kathy Ann Easley, Adult Services Social Worker, presentation was rescheduled for next meeting -Kathleen McNamara, YSB Senior Social Worker, was unable to attend this meeting because she is at a conference on creating circle groups for girls. –
- Drug Free Communities Grant
 - This grant is being used for underage drinking reduction for the towns of Mansfield, Ashford, & Willington
 - Funding for this grant will be ending at the end of June
 - Kevin Grunwald, Director of Human Services, has asked Patricia Michalak, YSB Coordinator, to take over the coalition work
 - Patricia Michalak, YSB Coordinator, proposed this to the YSB advisory board along with adding the Ashford YSB Coordinator as well as the Willington YSB Coordinator to the advisory board. The board were very positive about the idea and they suggested inviting the two coordinators to the next advisory board meeting.
 - The YSB advisory board thought that the Youth Service Bureaus in the three towns taking over this coalition was a good move and would help the continuity of services.

-The next meeting will be the last meeting for the year

Meeting adjourned at 12:34pm Minutes submitted by Graduate MSW Intern, Lauren DiGrazia