



TOWN OF MANSFIELD
OFFICE OF THE YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU

Patricia Michalak, MA
Youth Service Bureau Coordinator

YSB Advisory Minutes
December 11th, 2012
12:00 noon @ Mansfield Town Hall
Conf. Rm. B

Board Members

Present:

Ethel Mantzaris, Chair
Frank Perrotti, Assistant Chair, Resident
Kathy McNamara, YSB Social Worker
Chuck Leavens, E O Smith Counselor
Eileen Griffin, LCSW Resident
Trooper Stephen King
Gui Estes, Graduate Social Work Intern
Genevieve Rigler, E.O.Smith High School Student

I. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order at 12:00 PM by Eileen Griffin.

II. Approval of minutes

- November 13, 2012 minutes were approved.

III. Reports

- Director's Report – Kevin Grunwald
 - o Director's Report was distributed
- Coordinator's Report – Patricia Michalak

Big Friends Mentoring Program: The MMS principal has been very supportive of the program and provided pizza and drinks for all the participants, volunteers and parents at our last meeting. We will add a few more students from our waiting list and volunteers for next semester.

COPE: We have an average of eight college student volunteers in each school who take responsibility for developing lesson plans for the group. The children enjoy and learn from the creative activities and the individual attention that they receive from the volunteers and YSB staff.

Girls Group: The Girls' Group will begin on December 10, 2012. There will be returning members as well as new members attending the group.

Grief Matters: We have had the opportunity to work with Jeff Smithson for Grief Matters. Jeff has experience working at the Hole in the Wall Camp in Ashford, CT as well as working in a hospital setting working with children experiencing grief and loss. In addition, we have six returning professional volunteers from the community.

Villari's MMS Group: Ken Caputo and his staff are working together with YSB to facilitate two groups during the school day at Mansfield Middle School. The two groups meet every week. These groups focus is to promote leadership skills.

Boy's Group: The Boy's Group will be beginning in January. Steven Martin, graduate social work intern, has met with all of the boys who will be participating in the group as well as the volunteers. It will take place after school at Mansfield Middle School.

Legislative Breakfast: Mansfield has participated with other Youth Service Bureaus to let our legislators know about the work that we do in hopes of continued support from them. Representative Gregory Haddad attended the breakfast.

Multi-Family Group: UConn Pharmacy Students continue to work with families to provide outreach and continuity of care.

IV. Old Business

- Reviewed the Service Improvement Request. All members were in favor of presenting it as written.
- Discuss possible changes to format of Advisory Board Meeting to include community participation as well as possible participation from school principals and community members as suggested by Frank Perrotti

V. New Business

- Possible lesson plan for cell-phone/internet awareness course for children/adults to be included in the babysitting course at the community center.
- Every other month a principal/community member will be invited to the board meeting.

VI. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m. January 7th, 2012 next meeting