

**Youth Commission
Regular Meeting
Windsor Town Hall – Ludlow Room
January 5, 2005**

Present: Flo Barlow – Chair; Commissioners Gange, Hymes, Mascola, Novak, Reynolds, Respoli, Speed-Copeland, Webber; Student Members Katie Nowiszewski, Alisa Kravshaar; Mary Liz Sullivan, Youth Services Bureau; Rich Henderson, Recreation; Kathy Wise, Windsor Public Schools.

I. **Call to Order** - Commission Chair Barlow called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

II. Chairperson's Remarks and Welcome

Commissioner Novak asked if the by-laws had been changed to permit ex-officio members to be able to count toward a quorum. This will be looked into. (K. Wise arrived)

III. **Meeting Minutes – December 2004** – No action taken – no quorum

IV. Standing Reports

A. **CASAC** – No update at this time

(M. Copeland & M. Reynolds arrived and a quorum was established)

III. Meeting Minutes

MOTION: A motion by Commissioner Novak, second by Commissioner Respoli to approved the December 2004 meeting minutes as submitted. The motion carried 8-0-0.

B. **Youth Services** – Mary Liz Sullivan reported that they have started a new session with more participants than before. They are currently using the hallway at L. P. Wilson. The Senior Center has offered them use of their pool table on occasion. (P. Hymes arrived)

The Winter Festival is scheduled for February 11, 2005. Ms. Sullivan indicated that she has budget constraints and is not sure if there are funds to pay any staff for this. The event is scheduled from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. and several commission members volunteered to help. Ms. Sullivan will get the activities (bounce house, etc.)

The Youth Council will discuss this at their next meeting and funding will have to come from the Youth Council grant. Commissioner Copeland asked if the Boy Scouts could help staff some of the activities. Ms. Sullivan indicated that if they came with their own adult supervisors, they could help out.

C. **Recreation and Leisure Services** – Rich Henderson reported that the winter programs and swim sign up are underway.

Mr. Henderson also reported that Windsorland opened yesterday at 330 Windsor Avenue. He distributed a flyer regarding the membership fees, hours of operation, and party information. (M. Mascola and C. Webber arrived). Seven birthday parties have already been booked. Chairperson Barlow suggested that the March meeting be held at 330 Windsor Avenue so the Commission could see *Windsorland*.

Mr. Henderson informed the commission that the ski club started on January 11. Their location has been changed from Ski Sundown to Powder Ridge. This was due to a significant price increase at Ski Sundown and they were not willing to work with Windsor. It was noted that the group of 80 students are chaperoned by teachers and some parent volunteers.

- D. Police Athletic League** – Commissioner Novak reported that the Board of Directors held a meeting last night. The rates have been increased in order to reduce the deficit budget. Of the 450 kids in the program less than half of them paid dues. A \$20,000 grant was received for recreation and educational programs. The grant will be used to send two people to the New Orleans Convention in February. (R. Gange arrived)

Commissioner Novak reported that the Windsorland program could have an impact on the P.A.L. program. Mr. Henderson stated they would notify P.A.L. in advance if there were conflicts, however he indicated that the parties that are currently booked are all on Saturday.

E. Schools

Windsor Public – Ms. Wise reported that the basketball season is underway. The Enrichment Cluster Expo is scheduled at Sage Park for January 13. The PTSA program for January 10, 2005 will include the District of Counseling Services who will speak about the alternate opportunities available to Windsor High School students.

Commissioner Novak reported that on December 21, 2004 the Windsor High School received the Certificate of Occupancy for the building. This means that the State will now reimburse the town for the construction project.

Board of Education Member Moreton will be asked to attend a Commission meeting to discuss the results of the curriculum review.

St. Gabriel School – No update

Loomis Chaffee School – Katy Nowiszewski reported that Loomis has raised \$5,000 for the Tsunami Relief effort and indicated that they will most likely support the Red Cross with a donation. Additional fund raising is expected.

F. Library Services

Commissioner Novak reported that bids were received and a contractor selected for the construction project. The contract is within the budget and the Public Building Commission was able to add in most of the alternate bids, which he reviewed. Renovation to the Mather House is currently on hold. The library will be temporarily be relocated to the former AGLOW building. Construction will begin this month.

IV. Old Business

- A. Street Sign Theft** – Commissioner Webber will write a letter for the next meeting.
- B. Underage Drinking** – Ms. Sullivan reported that there is a grant for “Comprehensive Approach to Combating Underage Drinking” program. Can apply for up to \$20,000 for a 12-month period. Those towns that are already receiving funds for underage drinking programs cannot apply. The Commission reviewed the grant requirements regarding a task force, program coordinator, needs assessment, and the development of a strategic plan. The Commission felt that, with the help of the police department, the requirements could be met.

Flo Barlow will contact Officer Fisher regarding the statistical information. It was agreed that the Police Department should be made aware of the program and the training seminar in January. Commissioner Gange will talk with the Police Chief to get the necessary data and to discuss the grant and the program.

- C. Youth Council** – Ms. Sullivan indicated there is another grant available for the Youth Council in the amount of \$10,000, specific to Youth Council projects. “Soundwaves” was a suggested project.

K. Nowiszewski informed the Commission that the next Youth Council meeting is next week (Jan. 12, at 7:00 p.m. at L. P. Wilson). Commissioner Mascola will attend the meeting and bring information to them from Town Council member Curtis regarding a youth action program from Trinity College.

The Commission discussed the “Every 15 minutes” video and program. There was a question on what the “Ordinance” said. Ms. Sullivan will check into the wording.

- D. Library** – due to the relocation of the library, Ms. Sullivan is waiting for Library Director, Ms. Kahkonen, to set up a meeting to discuss space use.

VI. New Business

Nominations of Officers

MOTION: A motion by Commissioner Hymes, second by Commissioner Gange to approve the nomination of Flo Barlow as Chair and Commissioners Gange and Novak working as co-chairs. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of 2005 Meeting Schedule

MOTION: A motion by Commissioner Gange, second by Commissioner Novak to accept the proposed meeting schedule of the first Wednesday of each month for 2005. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Round Table

Commissioner Webber informed the Commission that the mock trial is not going forward this year. Announcements have been made and a flyer distributed. Only seven students have indicated their commitment. Ms. Wise noted that this could be due to some of the involved teachers having left. There was a suggestion that this be incorporated into the curriculum.

MOTION: A motion by Commissioner Gange, second by Commissioner Novak that the Board of Education approach the curriculum committee to develop the “mock trial” into the curriculum. The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Adjournment

MOTION: A motion by Commissioner Gange, second by Commissioner Novak and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet M. Burke, Recording Secretary