

**Youth Commission
Regular Meeting
Windsor Town Hall – Ludlow Room
February 2, 2005**

Present: Florence Barlow – Chair; Commissioners Hymes, Reynolds, Respoli, Thrall, Webber (arrived at 7:12 p.m.), Alternate Commissioner Moriarty; Mary Liz Sullivan, Youth Services Bureau; Officer Fisher, Police Department; Rich Henderson, Recreation; Michele Smith, Superintendent's Designee; Kathy Wise, Windsor Public Schools.

I. **Call to Order** - Commission Chair Barlow called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

II. Chairperson's Remarks and Welcome

Ms. Barlow had the opportunity to attend the CASAC (Capitol Area Substance Abuse Council) Meeting with Ms. Sullivan. A copy of the State statute dictating the function of the Youth Commission was distributed. (Commissioner Webber arrived)

III. Meeting Minutes – January 2005

The following changes were made to the minutes of January 5, 2005:

Page 1, Item IIIB, third paragraph, 1st sentence, change to read - ...meeting and funding will have to come from *the CASAC Grant that goes to the Youth Commission*.

Page 3, Item VII, 1st paragraph, 3rd sentence, change to read – *The mock trial only requires seven students and there was not enough interest.*

MOTION: A motion by Commissioner Hymes, second by Officer Fisher to accept the minutes of the January 5, 2005 meeting as corrected. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Standing Reports

A. CASAC – Ms. Sullivan reported that she has received the application for next year's grant. Activities that are long-standing, comprehensive programs have a better chance of getting approved.

Ms. Sullivan indicated that a current grant of \$4,245 is being used: to pay the part-time student who works at the Youth Bureau; community leadership to run the events; leadership training; and the two main activities sponsored by the Youth Commission (Night of 1000 Pumpkins and the Winter Festival). Ms. Sullivan also noted that in the past a donation has been made to "Project Graduation".

The paperwork for the \$20,000 CASAC grant is due in August.

B. Youth Services – A copy of the State Statutes were distributed. Mary Liz Sullivan reported that the "Club Café" scheduled for this Friday had to be canceled. She was unable to get enough chaperones. She had requested volunteers through a letter. However Commissioner Webber stated her child did not bring home any letter.

Ms. Sullivan indicated that there has been a problem getting information home to the parents. Commissioner Webber suggested getting information out through the PTSA email. Ms. Wise reported that the deadline for getting information in the next PTSA Newsletter for Sage Park is this Friday.

Regarding the Winter Festival, scheduled for February 11, several commissioners volunteered to help at this event. Ms. Barlow will check to see if the Boy Scouts will also be helping. It was suggested that since this is a Youth Commission sponsored program, the Commissioners should have nametags to identify themselves. It was also suggested that the newspaper be contacted for publicity for this event. It was also suggested that Ms. Jubrey from the Town Manager's office be contacted.

Ms. Sullivan reported that the Senior Citizen Center has been wonderful in allowing her after school students use their computers and game room.

It was noted that three students on the Youth Council are in contention for Shad Derby Queen.

- C. Recreation and Leisure Services** – Rich Henderson reported they are in the process of planning the summer programs and the brochure. They are actively searching for sponsors for the summer "Concerts on the Green".

Windsorland is in full operation. There are 25 birthday parties booked through the first part of March. It was agreed that the March meeting would be held at 330 Windsor Avenue.

- D. Police Athletic League** –No Report. There was a question as whether the Youth Council could still apply for a grant that PAL was also applying for. Ms. Webber stated that since PAL was a separate corporation and identified as a 501C3 charity, the Youth Council could apply. PAL is not part of the Town organization.

E. Schools

Windsor Public – Ms. Wise reported that the boys' basketball team is having a successful season. Students at Sage Park are raising money for Tsunami Relief by collecting spare change. The Spring Enrichment Clusters will be starting up soon. The Ski Club is enjoying a snowy winter. CMT scores are being assessed by school administration. They have not yet been mailed to parents.

Officer Fisher reported that there are 25 new students in the mentoring program. These mentors go to Sage Park School to work with students.

Ms. Moriarty briefly discussed the tutoring program. She also noted that expelled students would be involved in community service programs and projects.

Ms. Smith reported that each elementary school will have a Family Resource Center.

St. Gabriel School – Mr. Reynolds reported that this is Catholic Schools Week. A special mass was celebrated at St. Joseph Cathedral. Science Fair awards are this evening.

Loomis Chaffee School – no report

V. Old Business

- A. Street Sign Theft** – Ms. Webber spoke with Chief Searles regarding the possibility of an amnesty day for returning stolen street signs. She distributed a proposed flyer identifying such a day. The Commission reviewed the flyer and discussed the ramifications of a Class C Felony on job and college applications.

Ms. Hymes indicated this would be a great social studies discussion. Waiting to hear from Chief Searles to get his OK on the flyer.

MOTION: A motion by Commissioner Hymes, second by Commissioner Thrall to authorize the subcommittee of Webber, Rispoli, and Fisher to approve the final draft of the flyer on street sign theft. The motion passed unanimously.

Underage Drinking –There was a miscommunication in the police department and a representative was not able to attend the two-day conference on Underage Drinking. Ms. Sullivan did attend the conference.

The \$20,000 grant for one year is not renewable the following year, but it can be renewed again the year after that. This grant is only for a comprehensive program, must be run by a coalition, have a paid staff person for 15 hours a week. The Needs Assessment must be completed prior to applying for the grant.

It was noted that Dr. Gange was going to discuss this grant with Chief Searles. Officer Fisher indicated that some of the required information is available through the records department and can get a printout.

If the Commission agrees to move ahead with this grant, Ms. Sullivan requested that \$10,000 be used for the Youth Services Bureau for the "Every 15 Minutes" program. Would like to see this get into the middle school as well as the high school. Officer Fisher also indicated that St. Francis Hospital runs a similar program. Also MADD and Positive Motivational Productions have presentations.

Ms. Wise indicated this is a topic for the Personal Health TAP class at the middle school.

The Commission reviewed the Needs Assessment Document and divided the task of interviewing at least two people from each category (Enforcement, Prevention, Education, and Public Policy). This information will be given to Ms. Sullivan by February 18.

Ms. Sullivan distributed copies of the CT Coalition to Stop Underage Drinking for the Commission to review.

Youth Council – The Youth Council met last month with Trinity College professor who works with the awareness of alcohol and tobacco issues with the middle and high school students and works with establishments in town that illegally distribute to minors. Melissa and Katie are working on bridging the gap in areas of town and anticipate placing an idea box on how to get kids together.

Next Youth Council meeting is February 7, 2005. In response to a concern that there is a gap in town, it was noted that previously transportation was an issue. However, transportation costs have prohibited the Town for providing this service.

VI. Adjournment

MOTION: A motion by Commissioner Hymes, second by Officer Fisher and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:02p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet M. Burke, Recording Secretary

These minutes were corrected and approved by the Youth Commission at their regular meeting on March 2, 2005.

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