

Windsor Youth Commission

Minutes – 4/05/06

Meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. Florence Barlow, Chairperson, presided.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

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| Florence Barlow | Kelvan Kearse, WPD | Sarah Thrall |
| Joe Novak | Robert Gange | |
| Cori Lynn Webber | Katy Nowiszewski | |

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

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| Patricia Hymes | Sharon Gauthier | Jean Goselin |
| Jeanette Cave | Marva Speed-Copeland | Hillary Carpenter |

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

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| Mary-Liz Sullivan | Rich Henderson | Kathy Wise |
| Barbara Trinks | | |

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Catherine Moreton

GUESTS

none

Chairperson's Remarks and Welcome Visitors –

Florence introduced Barbara Trinks who will be representing Dr. Feser.

Florence noted that the May meeting will coincide with a presentation in the Council Chambers on "No Child Left Behind" that she thought Youth Commissioners may be interested in attending. Given the schedule conflict, a motion to cancel the May Youth Commission meeting was made by Joe Novak and seconded by Sarah Thrall. Vote in agreement was unanimous.

PREVIOUS MINUTES –

Motion to approve March 2006 minutes was made by Joe Novak; seconded by Bob Gange. Correction made by Cori Lynn that the motion regarding opposition to the usage fee for school facilities being used by youth groups should be changed to groups organizing activities "for Windsor youth" to reflect that the opposition is charging for programs for Windsor youth and not opposition for use by out of town programs. Minutes, with correction, passed.

STANDING REPORTS –

CASAC -

Mary-liz reported that CASAC will be presenting an upcoming conference on "Risky Business" regarding gambling and teens and gambling and women. There is a \$100 stipend available for the Youth Commission as the Windsor LPC if a representative attends. Mary-liz cannot attend since it is during April vacation week and she will be running the program for youth all week; she offered the opportunity to anyone who would like to attend. Mary-liz will ask Janet to distribute the flyer through the email list. She noted that the CASAC conferences are usually very good and it seems a shame to pass up the opportunity to get \$100.

Youth Services Bureau – Ms. Sullivan noted that the after-school program is doing well; the youth like the new space and it is working out very well. Mary-liz is very appreciative to everyone who has helped her in organizing the space and helping the youth get adjusted to it. She also reported that she is in the process of getting Summer Camp brochures out and distributed some. The April Camp brochures have gone out through the schools. The youth have participated in a project organized by Alica in response to Hillary's visit to the YSB to promote participation in the "I Dream A World" art contest about the death penalty. Alica has submitted an entry as a result of guided discussions about this topic that she has facilitated with the youth. The youth have also been creating a video for a "Soaring Dreams" contest being promoted by Ameriquest Mortgage. The annual YSB day at the State Capital will be April 10; we will have a display. The youth are participating in a regional Youth Forum as part of a statewide legislative initiative on Positive Youth Development.

PAL – Joe Novak reported that attendance is picking up. They are in the midst of the Coloring Book Fundraiser which appears to be doing well. Coloring books will be distributed through various recreation venues. Suggestion was made that PAL have a Press Release about the fundraiser and how the funds will be used as well as the increased security in the building. Rich reported on an application process with Foodshare to obtain snack and food products for use in the after school program at no cost – in the process of applying he has accomplished getting an updated 501(c)3 letter which needed to be done.

Recreation – Rich passed out flyers about Flashlight Tag. He also reviewed procedure for Swim lesson registration.

Library – The building is just about complete – should be opening in mid-May.

Windsor Public Schools – Kathy Wise reported that the CMTs are finished. Spring sports are up and running. Transition for 5th graders is beginning. Barbara Trinks commented on nice article recently about Oliver Ellsworth School and the Interim Principal.

Police - Captain Kearse discussed the recent fight at Fox Middle School and the concern of any residual fallout due to youth who have moved here from that area still maintaining contact with old acquaintances. He notes that there is no evidence of fallout but the police are being vigilant. He reported on G.R.E.A.T. training in Philadelphia that was attended by some officers. Discussed difficulty in working with kids when media stars, hip-hop and rap culture are tied to gang culture. Also discussed dangers spreading through the Internet, particularly chat rooms and youth blogs such as MYSpace. Florence noted that this is an area that perhaps should be addressed by the Youth Commission; perhaps take on a project to educate parents and youth.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Underage Drinking

R. Gange has sent letter to Mr. Arcarese – has not received a response yet.

B. Youth Council

Katy has organized a meeting for May 10, 7PM, at the new Youth Services Bureau Room, room 20, at L.P.Wilson. Mary-liz will contact Carol Sculz at the High School to get a list of current club advisors; Katy will send out letters to the advisors asking them to invite their youth members to attend the Youth Council meeting. Cori Lynn noted that she may also be able to attend.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion on possibility of creating a workshop or presentation or panel to educate parents on Internet safety. Mary-liz offered to research what other towns have done that might be worthwhile.

Motion to adjourn made by R. Gange; seconded by J. Novak. Motion passes.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00PM

Respectfully submitted,
Mary-liz Sullivan

These minutes were approved by the Youth Commission at their meeting on June 7, 2006.