

**Youth Commission
Regular Meeting
Windsor Town Hall – Ludlow Room
March 1, 2006**

Present: Commission Chair Barlow, Commissioners Carpenter, Novak, Speed-Copeland and Webber, Alternate Commissioner Gauthier; Mary-Liz Sullivan (arrived at 7:50 p.m.); and Rick Bosch, Recreation Department.

1. **Call To Order** – Chair Barlow called the meeting to order at 7:17 p.m.
2. **Chairperson’s Remarks and Welcome**

Chair Barlow thanked everyone for their help at Winterfest last week. Gift certificates were donated by the Bloomfield Avenue McDonalds. Special thanks to Mary-Liz Sullivan for all her efforts.

3. **Meeting Minutes – February 2006**

MOTION: A motion by Commissioner Novak, second by Commissioner Speed-Copeland to approve the minutes of February 1, 2006 as submitted. The motion passed 5-0-1 (Commissioner Webber abstained – was not in attendance).

Chair Barlow reported she has not heard from Commissioner Cave regarding the nominations for officers. She also reported that Commissioners Hymes, Rispoli, and Alternate Moriarty have resigned from the Commission

Commissioner Novak noted that the 11 members of the Commission should include the police representative as a voting member.

4. **Standing Committee Reports**

F. Recreation – Mr. Bosch reported they are in the second session of the Crossroads program. This is a program that targets students who are deemed “at risk”. They are referred to the program by the school, juvenile review board, police department because of disciplinary problems, first offenses, and excessive absences. Mr. Bosch stated the students’ grades, attendance, and police record are being tracked.

Crossroads provides many services including participation by Youth Services Bureau, police department, social services, and tutoring. There is also community service work for the kids including helping out at the Soup Kitchen in Hartford. The participants are middle and high school aged kids. Fourteen kids participated in the first session and 10 kids are in place right now for the second.

Mr. Bosch is currently looking into grant funding to provide a similar program in the summer.

C. PAL – Commissioner Novak reported that attendance is down. The thinking is because the fee was increased from \$10 to \$20 and the tighter security at 330 Windsor Avenue, not as many kids are coming into the program.

Mr. Bosch indicated that Recreation is putting together brochures for distribution.

The PAL fundraiser is underway using a professional fund raising company. PAL will realize 30% of the proceeds.

D. Library Services – Commissioner Novak updated the Commission on the construction project. He noted the building should be ready for the public in June.

G. Police Department – Commissioner Novak will contact Chief Searles to determine who their representative to the commission will be.

5. Reports on Projects

Underage Drinking Project – Chair Barlow reported that Commissioner Gange has not heard from Mr. Arcarese at the high school. (Mary-Liz Sullivan arrived). The Youth Commission was directed by the Superintendent of Schools to talk to Mr. Arcarese, high school principal, with regard participation in the project. It was suggested a formal letter be sent letting him know the Commission is waiting to hear if he wants this project to move forward. Chair Barlow will invite Mr. Arcarese to the next Commission meeting.

Youth Council – The Youth Council began two years ago for students in addition to our two student representatives. Previously one or two members of the Youth Commission participated in the Youth Council meetings. They are currently looking for volunteers from the Commission to work with the Youth Council.

6. **New Business** – Commissioner Novak questioned the fees being proposed for groups using the school buildings. There was discussion regarding the fees and who would be affected.

MOTION: A motion by Commissioner Webber, second by Commissioner Gauthier to inform the Town Council and the Board of Education, in a letter, that the Youth Commission is against any policy that charges fees for use of school buildings for programs involving Windsor Youth as it would adversely affect Windsor youth. The motion passed 7-0-0.

7. Round Table

Chair Barlow - Kids had a blast at Winterfest, but attendance was down.

Commissioner Novak noted the Planning and Reuse Study does impact Windsor Youth. This includes consideration of an all-day kindergarten program and includes 330 Windsor Avenue and L. P. Wilson Community Center.

Ms. Sullivan reported Youth Services Bureau moved into a new location in the Board of Education portion of L. P. Wilson. The Youth Commission would like to meet there before the end of the school year. She also thanked Recreation for opening the play area for the little kids during Winterfest.

Commissioner Speed-Copeland has two large tables if the Youth Services Bureau wants them.

Commissioner Webber is on the Board of Directors of the CT Valley Girl Scouts. She would like to help them get more involved in programs in Windsor.

Commissioner Carpenter informed the Commission of a state-wide art competition entitled “I Have a Dream”. She can provide additional information.

7. Adjournment

MOTION: A motion by Commissioner Novak, second by Commissioner Speed-Copeland and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet M. Burke
Recording Secretary

These minutes were approved by the Youth Commission at their meeting on April 5, 2006.