



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
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## **BOARD OF YOUTH SERVICES MEETING MINUTES**

### **04/06/2011**

Board of Youth Services  
Meeting Minutes Wednesday April 6, 2011

Announcement: Congratulations to Christine and Bobby who recently were married

Present: Joan Robbio, Joan Axelrod Lehrich, Carlene Newell, Maryanne Andrew, Elizabeth Oppedisano, Phyllis Brown

Review Minutes of March 3,2011 meeting. Motion by Carlene to approve, seconded by Maryanne all in favor, Unanimous vote to approve minutes.

AYCC Update – Phyllis

Phyllis distributed a handout with update information.

Summary of Handout:

Recently a parent of a client committed suicide. Rebecca Wolf is planning on doing trauma debriefing with staff. Other support services will be available to the family members.

Client Satisfaction Survey has been completed and summary of results distributed. 25% response rate. Represented month of February. Items identified for improvement include, waiting time for first appointment, (28 kids on waiting list) and the limited psychiatric availability.

There are 28 current cases.

55% of clients are covered by Mass Health, down from 75%, other insurances we are collecting from are UBH (Harvard Pilgrim), Tufts, and BC/BS

Due to some responses on satisfaction survey, Phyllis would like to improve waiting area, making it more kid friendly, she is looking into having a “toy trunk” that can be easily taken out and put away.

We are in the process of hiring another fee for service clinician. This will be #8 hire.

CHNA grant proposal is not out yet. Hoping to write grant for Town wide Comprehensive substance abuse program including awareness and treatment. Recently hired a substance abuse counselor so will work with her to come up with a plan.

Think: Kids – Parenting, Teaching, and treating challenging Kids parent forum scheduled Tuesday April 26, 2011 at 6:30. Phyllis is asking for help with desserts. Mary will set up coffee before program.

Fundraising Update – Maryanne Andrew

Group meets every Thursday

Direct mailing has gone out. Currently receiving donations. List went around asking for people to fill out name, place of employment and title for grant proposal information.

Three phases of fundraising:

- Fundraising Letter
- Specific fundraisers
- Corporate grants/sponsors

Silent Auction is being planned for a Thursday night in October. Please hold Thurs. 10/13 and 10/20 – we are looking at these

dates. We will need help from all board members and staff that evening. We are seeking donations of all kinds, especially sports items. More details to come.

Updates from Chair – Mary DeCoursey reported for Lynn

“Race to Nowhere” (sponsored by AYHSC) will be showing April 6<sup>th</sup>, tickets sales are at more than 200. Panel will consist of AHS guidance AC, AHS teachers, Minuteman Administration, AHS student, AYCC Psychologists as needed, for discussion following showing.

AYHSC sponsoring:

Drug and Sharps Take back May 7<sup>th</sup> from 9 – 1pm at DPW town yard.

Got Drugs? Arlington Drug Take – Back April 30<sup>th</sup>, 10 – 2 pm at the Community Safety Building.

First Step – Mary Deyst and Elaine Shea will step down from facilitating this group. They have been doing this for 20years and will be dearly missed. They will continue until next spring. We will look to funding this program. Mary and Elaine met with Subcommittee members: Lynn, Christine, Rebecca, and Karen Kelley. The first step group meets once a week year round. They shared their successes over the years and mentioned that they are looking for support, input and suggestions for transition planning. Ideas were generated and a follow up meeting is planned for May/June.

Parent Forums – Carlene Newell

April 13<sup>th</sup> - Doug Katz will be speaking about Bullying in childhood and adolescent program at Hardy school.

Alcohol Awareness program at AHS – Elizabeth Oppedisano

Peer Leadership Program has 60 kids in training. They will be visiting the Ottoson 7<sup>th</sup> graders to teach about the dangers of drug and alcohol use and abuse.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:10 pm

Next Meeting May 4' 2011 7 pm at Whittemore Robbins House.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Mary DeCoursey