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Board of Youth Services 10/14/2009

Minutes of the Board of Youth Services Meeting
October 14, 2009

Meeting called to order at 7:15

Present: Lynn Horgan, Elizabeth Oppedisano, Mary DeCoursey, Carlene Newell, Bob Bongiorno, Kevin Flood, Mary DeCoursey, Lori Talanian, Joan Axelrod Lehigh, Leon Cantor Absent: Maryanne Andrew, Joan Robbio, Cindy Sheridan Curran

Motion to Accept Minutes of September 16, 09 made by Lori T. One change is noted that the spelling of Sejal Shah is corrected (under AYCC update). Motion accepted by all.

Review of the following.

New meeting format: Lynn would like to have the subcommittee updates before the meeting in a hard copy so we could have a short review of the updates each meeting. Mary will ask for an update through email and then send out a hard copy to all members before the monthly meeting. The idea is to spend the bulk of the meeting working on new projects.

Logo: Lori displayed the logo that has been the logo for the BYS for a long time. A discussion on whether or not we should keep the logo. The agreement came to the AYCC logo (graphic) with the words around it this has been the BYS logo in the past. Lori will work with what we have and send out the logo in an email for approval.

Subcommittee Updates with discussion as needed (see attached handout):
Additional Discussions below;

AYHSC

Arlington Health and Safety Day took place on Tues. 10/12/09. Some members were able to attend and mentioned that the speaker was great. He spoke from his heart of his experience as a teenager with depression, alcohol abuse and an attempted suicide. After listening to his talk the students broke up into discussion groups to discuss topic in more detail. The guidance dept. is seeing an increase in students needing help but yet services to our young people are getting cut. The Board discussed how to make the community more aware of this day and information in general about teen depression. All agreed that writing a letter to the Arlington Advocate, to the editor would be a first step. The AYCC subcommittee will write up a draft to send out to the rest of the members for approval.

AYCC

There are about 12 people on the waiting list and there has been a waiting list since March. Leon would like to get the information out to the manager and or finance committee as the budget process starts soon. The AYCC subcommittee will begin to gather information on number of clients, waiting list times and numbers etc. Subcommittee will then draft a letter to the Town Manager.

Parent Forums

Carlene asked the Board to approve \$350 for parent forum donation. Lori made a motion to donate \$350 for the parent forum costs. Unanimous vote donate \$350

Proposed Programs

Movie Night – Bobby reviewed the plans. Date to be Friday Nov. 13th at the town hall. Time was discussed. Doors will open at 6 pm with the movie to start at 6:30 pm. APD will take care of all costs. It will be marketed as a “family night”. Bobby has reserved a popcorn machine and looking into Chilly Cow to provide ice cream. He is looking for volunteers for the night so anyone who can help out let him know.

Lori will be meeting with Patsy Cramer to discuss details of thanksgiving help so she will ask her about having food in the hall.

Lynn will draft up a flyer that will go to the schools and posted around town and sent to advocate. Carlene is able to distribute to schools. The flyer will include asking families to bring a non-perishable food item to support the food drive.

Lori also mentioned she may be able to get t-shirts for volunteers and will check into that for the evening.

Bobby will be getting a professional media company to set up. Movie suggestions are “Bedtime Stories” or “Monsters vs. Aliens”.

Holiday Help – Thanksgiving food drive

Lori is the chair. Subcommittee is Leon, Joan A., Kevin, Mary. Lori has met with Patsy Cramer and is working on a list of families, some from last year. Leon will give a list of AYCC families. Last year there were approximately 50 families given a thanksgiving meal. Lori is not sure about how to get names for the list but will see how many there are after she gets a list from AYCC. Donna D. is coordinating food donations at the Ottoson. Food will be delivered from Ottoson on the Friday before Thanksgiving to the Robbins House. Bigfoot Moving has donated their time and boxes this year. Joan A. will develop cards to put on boxes. Lori would like the meals to be more uniform this year so we will ask for specific items (those to make up a thanksgiving meal) and also the gift cards to local grocery stores – Johnnies or Stop and Shop. Kevin will look into having a drop off box at the Boys and Girls Club. All items should be at the Robbins house by Friday November 20th. Boxes will be filled over the weekend and distribution will be on Tuesday November 24th.

Adopt a Family – Christmas Help. Lori is coordinating but looking for someone to take over this. Lori reviewed “Givers Guidelines” and “Receivers Guidelines”. Leon has a list of families. Leon has a list.

New Business

Tip 411” – Bobby wanted to let the group know about a new program the APD is gathering information on. This program would allow text messages to be anonymously sent to the APD. The purpose would be to allow kids to text the police with information. If they are in a place they feel unsafe or want to give a tip to the police. This could be a partnership with BYS. The APD is meeting with the vendor to discuss this possibility and Bobby will bring back more information.

Resignation of Jeannette Mills. Jeannette resigned this past month and will no longer serve on the board. Lynn will look into the procedure for the possibility of someone taking her place.

Community Health Network Areas – tabled until next meeting.

Youth Risk Behavior Survey – Lynn is going to invite Colleen Leger to come to next meeting to discuss.

Campership donation – a motion was placed on the table to donate \$640 to a camper at the Thompson School for hardship. Unanimous vote.

Our next meeting date is changed to Wednesday Nov. 4th, 7 pm due to a busy November and December with the holiday help.

Motion to adjourn by Lori, seconded by Kevin, unanimous vote to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Mary DeCoursey