



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
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## Youth Services Minutes 03/30/2005

### TOWN OF ARLINGTON BOARD OF YOUTH SERVICES

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Mary Deyst, Chair  
 Jeannette Mills, Vice Chair  
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#### MINUTES

March 30, 2005

Present: Mary Deyst, Chair; Jack Bowler; Gene Lucarelli; Dorothy Williams, Clerk pro tem; Elaine Shea; Joan Robbio; Larry Greco; Cindy Sheridan; Dave McKenna, ex officio; Elizabeth Oppedisano, ex officio; Patsy Kraemer, ex officio.

Absent: Jeannette Mills, Vice chair; Carlene Newell; Donna Dolan

Guests: Dr. Gerry Harris – Lahey Clinic.

- 1) The minutes of the February 9, 2005, meeting were approved. Moved by Jack Bowler, seconded by Joan Robbio, unanimous vote.
- 2) Dr. Gerry Harris presented a \$10,000 check on behalf of Lahey Clinic for the Alcohol and Drug Education Program. He presented the check to Elizabeth Oppedisano, Patsy Kraemer, and Joan Robbio. He stated that the check supports this preventive program, in hopes that the work of the program benefits young people and helps them before the problem of substance abuse takes hold. The Board thanked both Dr. Harris and Joan Robbio for the ongoing support that Lahey has given to this program.
- 3) Correspondance – a solicitation from Fidelity House for their annual fundraiser was received. The Board voted a \$50 donation – moved by Larry Greco, seconded by Jack Bowler – unanimous vote.

A solicitation from the Boys and Girls Club for nominations for their outstanding volunteer of the year award program. The Board did not have a name to submit this year. Patsy also asked Board members for an indication of their intention to attend the Boys & Girls Club annual banquet. We will get a table at the banquet. Members are asked to let Patsy know and to get a check to her (\$40 per person).

- 4) Reports CAPP – Elizabeth reported in Carlene's absence. She told that Board that all but two schools have received the CAPP program.

STEP Groups – Elaine reported that the groups continue to do well. There are now 17 women in the two groups. She stated that they are most appreciative of the support the groups have received from the Board. Jill Crozier gave a special presentation to the groups a few weeks ago. She spoke after the two groups had dinner together.

Alcohol & Drug Education – Elizabeth reported that the program had received a \$1000 grant from the Governor's Highway Safety Program. She said that they are planning to do a new program this year called the "Grim Reaper." Certain students are chosen who go through the day as a "grim reaper," dressed in black with face paint, representing someone who has died in a drunk driving accident. She said that other schools have found this to be a very effective program aimed at breaking through the usual denial students have about their own vulnerability. Elizabeth also reported that the SADD club is doing a "Buckle Up: awareness campaign. The Peer Educators program has started, with a first training day being completed.

AYCC – Patsy reported that AYCC was recently carrying a waiting list; however they have been able to work their way through the list to date. She informed the Board that some of the staff have become active with Stand for Children, in an attempt to help the override campaign. She also reported that Network Health has been added to the insurance vendors that AYCC is affiliated with – this in addition to Mass Health and Harvard Pilgrim. A new application has been submitted to Neighborhood Health for affiliation. Patsy updated the Board on the budget outlook. If the override passes, then AYCC is in good shape. Without the override there would be a 10% cut. She will be exploring once again the status of the Symmes Hospital fund money.

- 4) The Board discussed reactions to the meeting with the Town Manager in February. The consensus was that the meeting went well, met the goals of the Board, and gave the manager much information on AYCC and the Board of Youth Services. The Board felt that he learned much new information about the services and the comprehensive networking that is done.
- 5) The Board will use the next meeting to brainstorm ideas for supporting the override and for using its networking capabilities to that end.
- 6) New Business – Dave McKenna announced that the Arlington Rotary Club will honor Mary Deyst as their “Community Person of the Year.” She will receive the award at their June 8, 2005 meeting. This is called the Paul Harris Award. We will receive information on the meeting at a later date. The Board gave Mary hearty congratulations.
- 7) The meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm – moved by Jack Bowler, seconded by Dorothy Williams – unanimous vote.

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