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Youth Services Minutes 09/29/2004

TOWN OF ARLINGTON BOARD OF YOUTH SERVICES

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Mary Deyst, Chair
 Jeannette Mills, Vice Chair
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MINUTES

September 29, 2004

Present: Mary Deyst, chair; Jeannette Mills, vice chair; Elaine Shea; Jack Bowler; Gene Lucarelli; Carlene Newell; Dorothy Williams; Cindy Sheridan; Dave McKenna, ex officio; Elizabeth Oppedisano, ex officio; Patsy Kraemer, ex officio.

- 1) Welcome back. Members gave an update of their summer experiences.
- 2) Minutes of previous meeting. Jack Bowler moved acceptance, Dorothy Williams, seconded. Unanimous approval.
- 3) Reports
 - CAPP – Carlene reported that six teachers are being oriented to the CAPP program. A parents night will be held this next Wednesday. The CAPP will be presented at Pierce in late October.
 - Carlene asked the board for financial support for the Parent Education Forum. Dorothy moved that we dedicate \$300 to this program – seconded by Jack Bowler. Unanimous vote.
 - Alcohol & Drug Education Program – Elizabeth reported that she had met with the new High School principal about her programs. She will be approaching Lahey Hospital again this year for financial support.
 - Step groups – Elaine reported that attendance is up and down; the leaders are encouraged by recent progress of two woman, in particular.
 - AYCC – Patsy informed the Board about the agency's planned response to recent publicity on adolescents using antidepressant medications. She and Irwin Avery, psychiatrist, have developed a position paper on this issue to give to parents of children receiving antidepressant medication from AYCC.
 - Patsy distributed a copy of agency goals to the Board. Motion to approve the goals was made by Carlene, seconded by Cindy, with a unanimous vote.
 - Patsy reported that no specific word on grant money from the Symmes Hospital Fund has been received.
- 4) Assessing the Future – the Board plans to invite various community people to meetings, specifically, the high school principal and the town manager, and the new principal at the Brackett. Jeannette also would like to have the various assistance groups come to a meeting with the Board.
 - TOP Feedback – Patsy gave the board an overview of the new outcomes measure program that AYCC is using – called TOP. She's enthusiastic about the information that should be available from this program, and she feels it will help us make our case for continuation of AYCC for the future.
 - Focus Groups – the Board will continue to discuss the idea of using some focus groups to gain information about the needs in the community and about the need for a program such as AYCC. Board members are still concerned about the Arlington public's lack of awareness about AYCC.
 - One recommendation was made to distribute agency brochures to new teachers, town meeting members, churches, house deans, nurses, and special ed teachers.

Patsy briefly outlined a new program that she would like to have pursued by Board and staff if the funding from Symmes Hospital Committee comes through, namely a parent aide or parent mentoring program. She and the staff perceive a need in the community for such a program.

- 5) Thompson Science Camp – Cindy Sheridan asked the Board to consider sponsoring some students from the Thompson for the Science Camp. The Board voted to fund two scholarships, at \$250 each.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:05.