



Colchester Youth & Social Services

127 Norwich Avenue, Suite 205, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

P: 860-537-7255 F: 860-537-1731 E: youthservices@colchesterct.gov



Youth Services Advisory Board/Youth FIRST Coalition Wednesday, October 2, 2019 5:00pm Town Hall

Voting members present: Lorraine Marvin, Linda Bromley, Chairman Pam Scheibelein, Christine Miskell, Elizabeth Allard, Jacquelyn Rose

Others present: Director Val Geato, Kylie Fontaine, Hannah Knight, Chris Bennett, Admin Intern WJMS Erica Hanush, BOE Liason Amy Domeika and Officer Shannon Owens

1. Call Meeting to Order: Chairman Pam Scheibelein called the meeting to order at 5:02pm.
2. Approve Meeting Minutes: Linda Bromley motioned to approve the September 2019 Meeting Minutes, seconded by Lorraine Marvin.
3. Public Comments: It was suggested that the Advisory Board meeting is moved back to the Youth Center.
4. New Business:
 - a. 2020-2021 Budget: C3 and Youth Services are presenting to the Board of Finance tonight at 7:00pm. Chris Bennett inquired about a capital improvement plan for the youth center building. If the location of the youth center were to change (within a school instead) the program could change- no longer a drop-in center.
5. Old Business:
 - a. Bake Sale: a sign-up sheet was passed around. Help is needed to make sales at the table and to provide baked goods to sell.
6. Local Prevention Council Initiatives:
 - a. Hannah discussed the upcoming vaping Community Conversation, 10/17/19 at WJMS. Members took flyers to hang at local businesses. She is still waiting on responses to be part of the panel from the principals at the high school and middle school.
 - b. Next community conversation dates are: January 29th and March 25th. Topics on conversation could be: mental health promotion and substance abuse prevention Screenagers 2 will be released this month. A community conversation idea would be a showing of that and then having healthy alternative activities outside the auditorium.

An additional program for students at Bacon could also be planned so we can utilize the movie at numerous events. Project courage provides a presentation about experiences between children & their parents who are addicts too. Community conversation budget will be lower since LPC money has to be set aside to increase the hourly rate of the substance abuse counselor at Bacon Academy to an industry standard. WJMS is also having a wellness day in February.

- c. Law regarding vape product possession has changed. It is no longer illegal for a minor to possess vape products, still illegal for people under the age of 21 to purchase. The law won't be able to be amended until the next legislative session.
- d. Val would like to offer smoking cessation program during in school suspension for vaping/smoking related offenses.
- e. Chris asked for more pro-social activities. The middle school had a great turn out for the star lite social, so having a game night or ice cream social can be a great activity and fundraiser.

7. Next Agenda:

- a. Review and vote on Advisory Board by-laws.

8. Adjourn: Linda Bromley motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:05pm, seconded by Pam Scheibelein.