



Colchester Youth & Social Services

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Youth Services Advisory Board/Youth FIRST Coalition Wednesday, July 22, 2020 at 9:00am via Zoom

Members present: Vice Chairman Pam Scheibelein, Secretary Jacquelyn Rose, Russell Melmed, Elizabeth Allard

Members Absent: Lorraine Marvin

Others present: Valerie Geato, YSB Director; Christine Miskell, SERAC; Kylie Fontaine, YSB Program Coordinator; Carol Wikarska; Michele Wyatt, Shannon Owens; School Resource Officer.

1. Call Meeting to Order

- a. Meeting was called to order at 9:00am by Vice Chairman Pam Scheibelein.
- b. Jacquelyn motions to amend the agenda to include elections; Pam seconds; all in favor; motion passed.

2. Approval of June Minutes

- a. Will review and approve minutes at next meeting.

3. Public Comments: none

5. New Business:

a. Program updates

- i. Programs are being facilitated out of the parking lot
- ii. Schedule: Tuesdays - Youth Uprise, in which members learn how to be an ally and bring awareness of student diversity; Wednesdays – Yoga, Martial Arts; Thursdays – Leadership Groups; Fridays – rotate activities
- iii. Enough participation to justify running programs
- iv. Need to explore program facilitation options for coming academic year and make a decision based on state guidelines. Exploring partnerships with different organizations to increase usable space. Discussed modeling after OEC. Registration will be required. Discussed the need to develop a proactive outreach strategy to maintain connection with children that will participate in virtual learning.

b. Elections

- i. The board discussed holding elections and decided to wait until December. Pam will continue to facilitate meetings.

6. Old Business

- a. Gift cards to support food access and security – Amy and Val will connect after the meeting

7. Local Prevention Council

- a. 2021 DFC Grant; received letters of support from state leaders
- b. SERAC Local Prevention Council grant is due July 31st; Michele Wyatt (tax collector and Lion's) and Carol Wikarska (business owner) represent additional sectors. Last year funds were used to support addiction counselors at schools and pay for consultant. This year a portion of the grant must be used to provide vaping education and prevention. Ideas included: paid social media education campaigns, webinars for school aged youth during health classes, recording an "In Plain Sight" training for parents, purchasing THC test kits for the school and/or parents.

6. Next Agenda: upcoming LPC Grant.

- 8. Adjournment** – Pam motioned to adjourn. Elizabeth seconded; all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 10:30.

Respectfully submitted by Jacquelyn Rose.