

Town of East Haven, CT
Youth Services Commission Minutes
March 9, 2011; Teen Center, 78 Frontage Road, East Haven CT;
7:00PM

Youth Services Vice Chair Al Camera called the meeting to order at 7:27 P.M.

Agenda Item-Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Al Camera, CJ Cofrancesco, Mary Cofrancesco, Emily Kuzma, Chuck Licata, Mary Varunes.

Commissioners Absent: Mike D'Amato, Rob Fucci, Cindy Recinos.

Non-Commissioners present: Bob Petrucelli, Kelly Smith

Agenda Item- To Consider and Approve the February 9, 2011 Minutes

Commissioner Camera asked if there were any changes to the February 9, 2011 Youth Service Commission minutes. Commissioner Mary Varunes made a **Motion** to accept February 9, 2011 minutes as read. Seconded by Commissioner CJ Cofrancesco.

Agenda Item- Local Prevention Council Grant-

Mr.Petrucelli spoke to the commissioners about this year's Post-Prom event at East Haven High School. Mr. Petrucelli stated new Principal Mr. Anderson, as well as the post prom committee, distributed a survey to the juniors and seniors to see possible suggestions for improving the post prom event. Mr. Petrucelli noted that \$2,500.00 is dedicated to the Post-Prom committee this year. It appears beach towels will replace the tee shirts as part of the package students receive. All commissioners present were in favor of this expenditure. Mr. Petrucelli described the Prescription Drug Takeback Program. This program is to help town residents dispose of old medications properly. Commissioner Chuck Licata voiced his support of the program volunteering the use of one of the fire houses as a site.

Commissioner Licata thought this program might be able to coincide with a planned fun day at the fire station with some refreshments. Commissioner Licata would also have smoke detectors and some other give a ways to the town residents for stopping by and supporting this wonderful program.

Agenda Item-Teen Center Program Update-

Mr. Petrucelli distributed a copy of the flyer that went home to all 6th grade students in East Haven schools. Mr. Petrucelli noted that he had about 25 6th grade students from the Academy express and interest in attending the Open House. Commissioner Camera stated there was great interest at JMMS in the event. The Open house will be held on March 11, 2011 from 7-9 P.M. with parents and students are welcome. There will be no charge for this event. Commissioners and Chaperones will be there to meet and greet parents and students and welcome them to the Teen Center. Refreshments will be served to all. Commissioner Licata donated the coffee pot from the Fire Station. The Recording Secretary (Kelly Smith) will be making a cookie and brownie tray for the open house. Commissioner Mary Varunes will be purchasing the coffee for this event. Commissioner Licata thought it would be a good idea to place our donation jug out for the open house.

Mr. Petrucelli stated that over the recent February school vacation break the Teen Center was open for two afternoons to begin the artwork for the murals on the walls. This was a big success. Mr. Petrucelli would like to see the Teen Center open up on a regular basis to continue with this art program.

Mr. Miles is a video/technology teacher at East Haven High School. Mr. Miles video taped some of the activities at the Teen Center during vacation week. Mr. Miles would like to premier some short movies his students created and have them viewed at the Teen Center.

Agenda Item-Teen Commissioners Report

Commissioner CJ Cofrancesco worked on putting a mixer together for March 18th but unfortunately EHHS is holding a Spring Fling dance on the same night. Commissioner CJ Cofrancesco and the other Commissioners decided to host the mixer on another night. Commissioner Camera suggested the possibility of the fall, September or early October. This would help with the all the scheduled proms and formal dances that have already been scheduled this spring. Commissioner Mary Cofrancesco suggested that we

distribute a flyer to the current 8th graders who will be attending High School in the fall regarding this mixer. Commissioner Mary Cofrancesco also suggested we try to get e-mail addresses of students that are currently attending the teen center events.

Commissioner Camera and Commissioner Mary Cofrancesco talked about a “Paint the Floor” of the Teen Center square by square program. Each person would be given a square to decorate with their own creative ideas. Chaperones as well as Art teachers would be available to help. All paints and supplies would be provided by the Teen Center. Commissioner Camera had a few ideas like follow the “Yellow Brick Road” or “Let’s Get Creative and Make a Game Board Floor”. Commissioner Licata mentioned that The Home Depot would possibly donate all mistake orders of paint that they have. All Commissioners also thought it would be a nice way for any students that are still in need of community service hours.

A **MOTION** to change the date of the scheduled April commission meeting was made by Commissioner Camera, Seconded by CJ Cofrancesco. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Petrucelli will cancel the April 13th meeting and post a special meeting to be held on Monday April 4th at 7 P.M.

A **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 P.M. was made by CJ Cofrancesco, Seconded by Emily Kuzma. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Smith

Kelly Smith
Recording Secretary