

Town of East Haven, CT
Youth Services Commission Minutes
May 12, 2010; Teen Center, 78 Frontage Road, East Haven CT;
7:00PM

Youth Services Commission Chairperson Mike D'Amato called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M.

Agenda Item-Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Al Camera, CJ Cofrancesco, Mary Cofrancesco, Mike D'Amato, Robert Fucci, Emily Kuzma, Chuck Licata, Cindy Recinos, Mary Varunes.

Commissioners Absent: None

Non-Commissioners present: Bob Petrucelli, Kelly Smith

Agenda Item- To Consider and Approve the April 14, 2010 Minutes

Commissioner Mike D'Amato asked if there were any changes to the April 14, 2010 Youth Service Commission minutes. Commissioner CJ Cofrancesco made a motion to accept April 14, 2010 minutes as read. Seconded by Commissioner Robert Fucci.

Agenda Item- Teen Center Update

Commissioner Camera and Mr. Petrucelli spoke with the commissioners about being able to use the new teen center over the summer. Commissioner Camera discussed a potential summer enrichment program at the teen center patterned after activity periods at JMMS and the Academy in which students select from a wide range of topics to participate in. Interested adults from the community would share their expertise in an interactive class setting with teens learning different skills. Painting, dance, theater, chess and magic are a few ideas. Mr. Petrucelli and Commissioner Camera would like to put together a survey for the students to complete to help them get a better idea of what the teens would like to participate in. The Commission would be interested in how often the program would meet and perhaps opening for a

few hours on a Tuesday/Thursday morning for a month or so during the summer. Commissioner Mary Cofrancesco stated that High School students might be interested in sharing their expertise and mentoring younger teens. Commissioner Mary Cofrancesco also mentioned that ETV would be willing to work with the children that may be interested in the broadcasting field. The Commission will be looking for volunteers once they get a better idea of topics. The Commission talked about how to advertise. East Haven Youth Commission looking for volunteers will be posted in the East Haven Courier, Hagan Memorial Library, School newspaper, and ETV. Commissioners Recinos and Kuzma will be working on a flyer "Sharing your Skills". Commissioners Kuzma, Cofrancesco and Fucci discussed the possibility of setting up a Facebook page and video blog for this project.

A Motion was made by Commissioner D'Amato to pursue offering a summer Teen Center Summer Enrichment Program. Seconded by Commissioner CJ Cofrancesco. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Petrucelli and Commissioner Camera will continue to research the Teen Center Summer Enrichment Program. Mr. Petrucelli mentioned that the East Haven Summer Camp program will be spending one day a week at the new Teen Center.

Agenda Item- Local Prevention Council Grant- Update

Mr. Petrucelli stated the commission that the \$ 4,245.00 local prevention grant money is now available. \$2,000.00 has been allocated to the East Haven High School post prom committee leaving a balance of \$2,245.00. Mr. Petrucelli is looking for some suggestions and ideas for basic alcohol, tobacco and other drug prevention activities. Mr. Petrucelli mentioned to the commission that the deadline is quickly approaching. A few suggestions were a billboard, a skit performance by the Performing Arts Council and art activities featuring murals.

Agenda Item-Teen Commissioners Report

None

Agenda Item-Other

Commissioner Mary Cofrancesco asked about the Play by Rules program. It is important to remember to offer programs to all students in town not just those at a particular school.

A MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 P.M. was made by CJ Cofrancesco, Seconded by Cindy Recinos. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Smith
Recording Secretary