

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

Youth Services Commission Chairperson Mike D'Amato called the meeting to order at 7:08 P.M.

Agenda Item-Roll Call

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

Commissioners Absent: Mary Cofrancesco, Rob Fucci

Non-Commissioners present: Bianca Pappacoda, Bob Petrucelli, Kelly Smith

Agenda Item- To Consider and Approve the October 12, 2011 Minutes

Commissioner D'Amato asked if there were any changes to the October 12, 2011 Youth Service Commission minutes. Commissioner Camera asked to make a correction to the minutes noting Councilman Camera is from district one, not district two. Commissioner D'Amato asked for a Motion to accept October 12, 2011 minutes as amended. Commissioner Mary Varunes made a Motion, seconded by Commissioner Al Camera.

Agenda Item- YS Commission Officer Election Update

Mr. Petrucelli noted that with Chair D'Amato retiring and resigning from the Youth Service Commission, there will be a need for an election to be held at the next scheduled meeting on December 14th, 2011. At this time Commissioner Camera has expressed an interest in becoming Chair-Person and Commissioner CJ Cofrancesco is interested in becoming Co-Chair. Any other commissioners who are interested in either position are encouraged to do so. Mr. Petrucelli has also spoken with Commissioner Fucci who is

willing to resign due to a school schedule conflict at UNH. Please let Mr. Petrucelli know if you know anyone interested in joining the commission.

Commissioner D'Amato appreciated being elected to Chair the commission. He wishes the commission well, and thanked all for their time and hard work. Commissioner D'Amato has served the East Haven Residents for 25 years. Several Commissioners asked about their terms, and if they were staggered. Mr. Petrucelli will check with the Town Clerk's office on their current terms and report at the December meeting. Commissioner D'Amato officially resigned at the end of this meeting and Vice Chair will be running the next meeting until elections have taken place.

Agenda Item-Prescription Drug Take Back Update

Mr. Petrucelli is stilling working on this event; however at this time the event for November 12th, 2011 has been cancelled. Mr. Petrucelli mentioned that there is a registration process that needs to happen and after speaking with several other town's that have hosted an event like this, he is still working on getting in touch with the appropriate contacts and agencies. In the event that narcotics are turned in that day their safe collection and disposal of must be accounted for. The commission would like to host an event like this sometime in the spring of 2012. Commissioner Fucci works at Walgreen's Pharmacy in East Haven and one of their Pharmacists has expressed interest in volunteering their time to help out with the collection process of narcotics and any unused prescriptions. This would be at no cost to the town.

Agenda Item-Ivette Ruiz Program Update

Mr. Petrucelli is still waiting to hear back from Ms. Ruiz at this time. An update is expected at the December meeting.

Agenda Item-Teen Center Update-

Mr. Petrucelli informed the commission that the Teen Center has had two successful events so far this school year. T-shirts have been ordered in three colors black, white, and blue & gold. Circle Lanes bowling leagues continue to raise money for the teen center to date they have raised \$750.00. Goody's Hardware is also working on donations for the teen center floor. During school vacation Mr. Petrucelli would like to host a movie-night indoors with

our DJ Ralph Scholtman who as hosted several of this events at the East Haven Town beach. Commissioner Emily Kuzma mentioned to the commission that this year 8th grade students are welcome to attend home-coming at the EHHS as long as they are accompanied by a high school student. Commissioner CJ Cofrancesco believes that they are reaching out to the 8th grade students with hopes of keeping them interested in attending school here in town. Bianca Pappacoda mentioned to the commission that she takes attendance at the Academy and word is getting out that they also might be attending home-coming.

Agenda Item-Teen Commissioners Report-

Commissioner's Kuzma and Recinos are talking about hosting High School events. They will work on getting some ideas out to the students with the possibility of a survey to see what they might like to do at the teen center. A few suggestions were having a casino theme game night or bean bags toss and other games for students with prizes and food.

Agenda Item-To consider and act upon any matter brought before the Commission-

Commissioner Licata noted that with the change in administration we should find out what their plans are for the teen center rented space. We are currently renting space on a month to month lease. Mr. Petrucelli will meet with them as soon as possible to discuss the future of the center.

A MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 P.M. was made by Mike D'Amato, Seconded by Cindy Recinos, Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Smith

Kelly Smith
Recording Secretary