

Town of East Haven, Ct  
Youth Services Commission Minutes  
March 11, 2009; Town of East Haven Beach House,  
Cosey Beach Avenue; 7:00PM

Youth Services Commission Chairperson Mike D'Amato called the meeting to order at 7:09 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 February 11, 2009 Minutes

No additions or corrections to the February minutes. Commissioner D'Amato made a Motion to accept February 11, 2009 minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Mary Varunes. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item- Discussion of YSB/Commission Mission Statement

Mr. Petrucelli thanked the Commissioners for their assistance with the Mission Statement. A final draft copy of the mission statement that will represent the YSB and commission was distributed. The mission statement reads as follows: "The Town of East Haven Youth Service Bureau is committed to enhancing the lives of East Haven youth and their families through quality education, prevention, and positive youth development programs". Attempts are being made to have the Leonardo de Vinci quote selected by Commissioner Recinos superimposed in the background of the printed statement. This page can also include information on programs and

the commission. A Motion to accept the mission statement was made by Commissioner Kuzma and Seconded by Commissioner Recinos. Motion passed unanimously.

#### Agenda Item-Discussion of ETV Project

Mr. Petrucelli distributed copies of a letter to be distributed to all interested people who have signed up for the ETV program. Commissioners Mary Cofrancesco, CJ Cofrancesco, Emily Kuzma and Mr. Petrucelli met at the ETV studio to discuss their equipment and schedule training sessions. There will be a meeting Monday March 23, 2009 at the community room of the Hagaman Memorial Library from 6:00-7:30 p.m. Pizza and refreshments will be available. Mr. Petrucelli distributed materials to Commissioners Camera, CJ Cofrancesco, and Robert Fucci to distribute to all interested students. Trainings will be available on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays in groups of 5/6 people the first two weeks in April. Training will occur in the functions of production, editing, filming, on air broadcasts, control room and the use of cameras. A packet of information will be available for each student containing permission forms to use equipment and authorization for filming. Parents are all welcome to attend. Commissioner Mary Cofrancesco will be able to answer any questions in the absence of Mr. Petrucelli.

#### Agenda Item-Police & Youth Grant

Commissioner D'Amato stated he is working on the budget for the new police and youth grant application. The grant is due April 8, 2009. Grant awards are for a maximum of \$10,000. Commissioner D'Amato stated the program will run in two different, ten week sessions with a graduation at the completion of the program. Commissioner D'Amato is also looking into transportation costs to provide students a ride to the Teen Center Facility. This program would run after school. There is also a community service project that will be part of the grant application.

#### Agenda Item-Teen Center Facility

Commissioner Licata stated he has spoken with Mayor April Capone-Almon and Tax Assessor Mike Milici in regards to the proposed new site. Assistant Director of Administration and Management Ralph Mauro and Paul Hongo, Jr. Director of Administration and Management have both favorably visited the proposed new site. Mayor April Capone Almon is still committed to moving forward with this project. Discussion with the owners of the property will continue. Commissioner Licata will regularly check in with the Mayor regarding this project.

#### Agenda Item-Department of Mental Health Grant

Mr. Petrucelli distributed copies of an informational sheet regarding the Local prevention Council Grant program funds the Town of East Haven receives for the prevention of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. The grant award is for \$ 4,245.00, based on population figures. He would like for the commissioners to think of some new ideas for this grant. In the past the grant was used for programs such as the DARE program, EHHS Post Prom, and Recreation Department Day Camp. Commissioner Camera mentioned a recent poster contest sponsored by the Knights of Columbus focusing on substance abuse prevention. This is the type of activity the Commission can sponsor through this grant program.

#### Agenda Item-Teen Commissioner's Report

Commissioner CJ Cofrancesco stated students had a great time at the Guitar Hero Event which was held on February 13, 2009. No other reports.

#### Agenda Item-Other

Commissioner Varunes stated the East Haven Early Childhood Collaborative will be holding an event on Saturday, April 25, 2009 at the Overbrook Early Learning Center from 10-2 pm. This event is for the week of the Young Child. There will be entertainment, games and activities for all. Youth volunteers are needed, especially in the areas of running games for children. Commissioner Varunes asked commissioners CJ Cofrancesco, Rob Fucci, Emily Kuzma and Cindy Recinos to sign up interested teens. Commissioner Mary Cofranceso added that she would like to have

information available on the YSB Commission as well as a survey on what parents would be interested in or what they would like to see for their children.

A MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 P.M. was made by CJ Cofrancesco; Seconded by Al Camera. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Smith  
Recording Secretary