

2021 MAY 21 P 1:03

Town of East Haven, CT *Stacy Gravano*
Youth Services Commission Minutes TOWN CLERK
May 12, 2021; Foxon Fire House, East Haven CT; 7:00PM

Chairperson Camera called the meeting to order at 7:07 P.M.

Agenda Item - Roll Call

Present: Anthony Arcangelo, Al Camera, Chuck Licata, Jessica Trickett,
Ed Wajdowicz

Commissioners Absent: Joseph Esposito, Kassidy Griffin, Michele Lucatino,
Mary Varunes

Non-Commissioners present: Michelle Benivegna, Bob Petrucelli

Chairperson Camera welcomed all present and congratulated new Youth Service
Bureau Coordinator CJ Cofrancesco.

Agenda Item - To consider and approve the February 12, 2020 minutes

Commissioner Arcangelo made a motion to accept, seconded by Commissioner
Trickett. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item - Commissioner Background and Goals

Each commissioner and guest discussed their background, experience and goals for
the commission moving forward. All were excited to have the commission back to
meeting, especially in person. Stated goals included but were not limited to, a safe
place where kids can go to have fun, concerns over the environment and trash,
having more youth become involved in our community, afterschool programs and
programs that are not just academic or scholastic for youth, a space to call our own,
and alcohol, tobacco and other drug prevention programs including reducing
vaping among youth. The consensus was that small steps at first are important and
collaboration is key.

Agenda Item - New Business Moving Forward-Michelle Benivegna

Michelle Benivegna is the Assistant Director of Administration and Management
and Human Resources Director for the Town of East Haven. As a lifelong East
Haven resident, she is excited about the future of the Youth Services Commission

and let the Commission know they have her and Mayor Carfora's support. Michelle explained the current use of Hays School, which can include space for this commission and their activities, the town's partnership with the Shoreline YMCA which includes programs, plans to move the recreation director to Hays School. Eventually CJ will be located at Hays School also. General discussion on teen center events being held at Hays School and how that might look. Many new and exciting projects are happening in town and working together is key.

Agenda Item- CJ Cofrancesco

New Youth Services Bureau Coordinator CJ Cofrancesco introduced himself. CJ is a former member of this commission, lifelong East Haven resident and graduate of Sacred Heart University. He has worked at the YMCA and teen center events in the past. He is busy learning the workings of the Youth Service Bureau world and has attended his first meetings of the Fall festival and Police Athletic League (PAL). CJ wants to update the YSB page on the Town's website and asks that each commissioner email him a brief summary of what they want to accomplish as commissioners, similar to what was done during introductions. It is possible for the Commission to host a beach movie night. Further discussion is needed.

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

Commissioner Lucatino has resigned. A replacement for her as well as a recording secretary for the June meeting is needed.

The Youth services Commission meeting schedule needs to be set for the remainder of the year. Meetings will be June 9, September 8, October 13, November 10 and December 8, 2021. Motion to accept this schedule made by Commissioner Licata, Second by Commissioner Wajdowicz. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 p.m. was made by Commissioner Trickett, seconded by Commissioner Arcangelo. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob Petrucelli