

Town of East Haven, CT.  
Youth Services Commission Minutes  
March 6, 2013; Teen Center, 200 Tyler Street, East Haven CT;  
7:00PM

Chairperson Al Camera called the meeting to order at 7:18 P.M.

Agenda Item-Roll Call

Present: Al Camera, CJ Cofrancesco, Chuck Licata, Mary Varunes, Ed Wajdowicz.

Commissioners Absent: Dominic Milano, Emily Kuzma, Bianca Pappacoda  
Cindy Recinos.

Non-Commissioners present: Bob Petrucelli, Kelly Smith.

Agenda Item-To consider and approve the February 20, 2013 minutes

A Motion to accept the February 20, 2013 minutes was made by  
Commissioner Al Camera, seconded by Chuck Licata. Motion passed  
unanimously.

Agenda Item-Teen Center Program Update

a. Mr. Petrucelli updated the commissioners on the approval status from  
Public Works to go ahead with the removal of the lighting fixtures, and  
ceiling fans from the vacant Apizza Grande building owned by the town.  
Volunteers will remove lights and ceiling fans and install in the Teen Center  
in the upcoming weeks.

b. Mr. Petrucelli updated the progress of the two East Haven students from  
the New Haven Academy on their diversity project. They would like to work  
with high school students first then middle school students at the teen center.  
One of their activities is a diversity project to have students make flags out  
of clay that would represent their country. The two New Haven academy  
students also have a Sushi chef lined up for one of the high school night  
events.

c. Mr. Petrucelli informed the commissioners that the boiler at the old high school as recently stopped working. Currently, the Teen Center space along with Biddy Basketball and the Historical Society are without heat. Public Works will be getting a few space heaters for the Teen Center. The Teen Center is scheduled to have an event this Friday. Mr. Petrucelli asked the commissioners what they thought about using space heaters to be able to continue to host Friday night's event. Commissioner Camera thought that it would probably be best to only hold this event from 7-9 p.m. a two hour event instead of regular three hour event, due to limited heat from the space heaters. All agreed.

Mr. Petrucelli shared with the commission that the Dare Program Officer David Torello is looking for sponsors for graduation tee-shirts. The commission thought this would be a great idea for the Local Prevention Grant money and a donation to the Dare program. The cost is \$100.00 with the idea of having the Teen Center as a sponsor on the back of the shirt. A Motion to make a donation in the amount of \$100.00 to the Dare Program Tee-shirt fundraiser was made by Commissioner Camera. Seconded by Commissioner Mary Varunes. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

#### Agenda Item-Teen Commissioners Report

Discussion about hosting an event with all 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students on one night instead of separating them would be a great idea. This could also help with the number of students attending each event.

Commissioner Wajdowicz asked if there was a way to get the message out to parents and students earlier that events are being held. Commissioner Camera mentioned that he has put into place a system that allows students at JMMS to be informed daily through the morning announcements at school. Commissioner Wajdowicz asked if there were announcements at St. Vincent De Paul and the Academy as well which there are. Commissioner Camera was contacted by a parent through the Face Book page regarding the Teen Center. Commissioner's Al Camera and Ed Wajdowicz would like to see if there is a way to use this Face Book page to post events and pictures. However, discussion about permission slips from parents was held. Commissioner Camera will check into the schools policy and whether or not the Teen Center could use a link from the school system to post onto a web page for parents and students. Commissioner Camera will be checking with Mark Curcio from JMMS. Commissioner Wajdowicz will check with

Michael Archambault from the East Haven Academy. Mr. Petrucelli will check with St. Vincent De Paul School. Discussion about the possibility of a separate teen center page through the town's website. Commissioner CJ Cofrancesco will be checking into the Face Book page that was set up by former Commissioner Robert Fucci. Commissioner CJ Cofrancesco thought it would be helpful to have pictures posted on this face book page for other students to view. Commissioner Cofrancesco thought it could possibly help promote the Teen Center program more as more and more people are using the social media as a way to communicate.

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

None

A MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m. was made by Commissioner CJ Cofrancesco, Seconded by Commissioner Ed Wajdowicz, Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Kelly Smith*

Kelly Smith  
Recording Secretary