

Town of East Haven, CT.
Youth Services Commission Minutes
June 13, 2012; Teen Center, 78 Frontage Road, East Haven CT;
7:00PM

Chairperson Al Camera called the meeting to order at 7:13 P.M.

Agenda Item-Roll Call

Present: Al Camera, Emily Kuzma, Cindy Recinos, Mary Varunes, Ed Wajdowicz.

Commissioners Absent: CJ Cofrancesco, Chuck Licata, Dominic Milano, Bianca Pappacoda

Non-Commissioners present: Kelly Smith and Bob Petrucelli

Agenda Item-To consider and approve the May 9, 2012 minutes

A Motion to accept the May 9, 2012 minutes was made by Commissioner Ed Wajdowicz, seconded by Commissioner Cindy Recinos. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item-Updates

a. Lease Update-

Mr. Petrucelli stated that the teen center is still scheduled to move at the end of July. Mr. Petrucelli informed the commission that the town is looking into multiple possible locations, at least two of which are centrally located. The commission had a very lengthy discussion about the teen center facility and programming possibilities for the future. The commission would like to maintain what is in place right now and to have the program grow in the near future.

b. Summer Theatre Program-Art Program

Mr. Petrucelli informed the commission about the Summer Theatre program having difficulties due to the teen center leaving at the end of July. They were hoping to use the teen center facility for building sets for the theatre

program. At this time they are currently looking for a new location. The East Haven Arts Council is sponsoring the theatre performance.

c. Drug Take Back Update-

Mr. Petrucelli informed the commission that he has very good news about this program. He mentioned that the DEA (Drug Enforcement Agency) currently hosts a spring and fall drug take back event. Mr. Petrucelli said that we need to register with the DEA and they will take the prescriptions we collect away. The East Haven Police Department would have to be involved with this effort. As of today the next nation wide drug take back event is tentatively scheduled for the end of October 2012. We are still looking to hold this event at the Foxon Fire House on Route 80.

Teen Commissioners Report-

Commissioner Recinos expressed her concerns about losing teen staff members at the teen center. Currently our high school students that chaperone are moving into other part-time jobs and college. Commissioner Recinos would like to see other students getting involved as volunteers and moving into chaperone positions at the teen center. She would like to recruit other students in the upcoming school year. Commissioner Kuzma also mentioned students needing community service hours to graduate and thought this was a good idea as well. Discussion about having a high school student DJ the events would be fun. Having a band every other event, or even hosting an event like Battle of the Bands or Guitar Hero was mentioned.

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

Mr. Petrucelli took a moment to address the commission regarding former Chairperson Mike D'Amato. Mr. Petrucelli mentioned that he was arrested on a number of charges none of which had anything to do with this commission. He noted that Mike D'Amato was the first chairperson for the YSB Commission and that he served honorably for his four years on the commission.

This commission will not meet over the summer. The next scheduled meeting will be held on September 12, 2012. The YS Commission, in conjunction with the Fall Festival committee will be sponsoring a booth for the teens at the Fall Festival which will be held on September 7th & 8th. A video trailer and a rock climbing wall are just a few things at the YSB (teen corner) spot.

A MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 7:51P.M was made by Commissioner Emily Kuzma, Seconded by Commissioner Cindy Recinos, Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Smith
Recording Secretary