



TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK
Youth & Family Services Commission

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Meeting Minutes

April 3, 2018
OSYFS Office

Present: Jen Welsh, chair and member-at-large; Sharon Tiezzi, member-at-large; Lisa Castro, school representative; and Jennifer Donahue, serving as clerk.

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m. by the chair and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

No members of the public were present for comment.

Minutes were not available for approval at the meeting and will be addressed at the May meeting.

The chair's comments centered on her hope that the commission could create a vision to further its advocacy mission and its support of Heather and her work by leveraging the talents and contacts of each member of the commission in support of that vision. She encouraged each person on the commission to give thought to their purpose for being part of the commission as well as what time, key contact points, and talents they could bring to the commission. With this information she would like to craft a vision based around the strengths and resources of commission members. For the May meeting she asked that each member bring a list of bullet points with the people that they have close contact with and the things they can do. These lists will be used to make a vision statement at the June meeting which can lead the commission into the fall. She will send a follow-up email to commission members regarding the lists for the May meeting.

The director could not be present at the meeting due to the necessity of her attendance at the Board of Finance meeting; her report was presented by the chair.

The director's report noted that all seven deliverables are on schedule to be completed for the 4/30/18 reporting date and the ad for opioid awareness shared by Westbrook, Clinton, and Old Saybrook began playing in the Marquee Cinemas on 3/30 and will run for three weeks.

The director's report also announced that Linda McCall's 28th anniversary with the commission is coming up on 4/16. She has ordered an Edible Arrangement from the YFS staff and the commission to commemorate the occasion. Linda has also decided to put in her retirement paperwork and her last day will be 6/29. Her position (FT, 37.5 hours) will be posted within the next few weeks internally. If there are no qualified internal applicants it will be posted at large. The selectman and the director will put together an interviewing committee for the replacement. Some members of the commission may be asked to serve on the committee.

The director's report noted that summer programming is in full swing. Some programs had to be shortened by a little bit to make accommodations and to address budget constraints. The summer stock performance will be Alice in Wonderland. Camp CONNRI applications are also available.

The chair also noted on behalf of the director that there would be a community conversation on safe school environments this week at the high school and that on May 14 there would be a student run and facilitated presentation on vaping at the Pavilion at 6:30 p.m.

There was no old business.

The chair noted that student award nominees will have to be identified for the May meeting. The commission usually has one award for senior night and another general award. The chair will get selection criteria out to commission members.

There were no updates on Family Day to discuss at this time.

There being no further business to discuss Ms. Tiezzi made a motion to adjourn at 6:10 p.m. seconded by Ms. Castro which was so moved by commission members present.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Donahue
Acting Clerk