

**Old Saybrook Youth & Family Services**

**Commission Meeting**

**Tuesday, February 5, 2019; 5:00 P.M.**

**Youth & Family Services Offices,**

**322 Main Street, Old Saybrook, CT 06475**

*“To collaboratively support and advocate for positive relationships in an inclusive community”*

<b>I. Roll Call</b>	<p><b>Attendant Members:</b> Jennifer Welsh, Chair; Lisa Castro, Old Saybrook Middle School-School Counselor; Mike Rafferty, Retired Educator; Jonathan Paradis, Old Saybrook Parks and Recreation; Mary Ann Iadarola, Public Nursing Board Representative; Sharon Tiezzi, Member-at-large</p> <p><b>Absent Members:</b> Michael Spera, Chief of Police</p> <p><b>Student Representatives:</b> Liam Welsh, Peter McNeil, Abbie Woodford</p> <p><b>Absent Student Representatives:</b> Carissa Schilke</p> <p><b>Attendant Staff:</b> Heather McNeil, Executive Director Angela Gaidry, Recording Clerk</p>
<b>II. Call to Order</b>	<p>H. McNeil called the meeting to order at 5:10 PM. Pledge of Allegiance</p>
<b>III. Comments from the Public</b>	<p>No one from the public was present.</p>
<b>IV. Approval of Minutes</b>	<p><b>Motion</b> made by S. Tiezzi to approve the minutes of Tuesday, January 8, 2019 as presented. The motion was seconded by M. Rafferty and approved.</p>
<b>V. Chairman’s Comments</b>	<p>J. Welsh introduced a short exercise to help YFS Commission craft an “elevator pitch.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What is the most important thing the commission does? Commission members communicated: collaboration, talk, listen, community support.</li><li>• What types of citizens are on the commission? Dedicated, involved, committed, diverse, devoted.</li><li>• Who/How do we serve? Support YFS agency and staff, support the agency director and staff</li><li>• Impact of commission? Sharing concerns, offering ideas &amp; solutions, learning about all services &amp; encouraging participation in programming. Identifying community needs and resources.</li></ul> <p>Regarding the survey: good results from commission.</p> <p>J. Welsh will put together recap and send out for further discussion (if applicable) and approval.</p>
<b>VI. Director’s Report for 2/05/2019</b>	<p>H. McNeil thanked M. Iadarola, J. Welsh and M. Rafferty for attending BOF meeting.</p>

**E3**

H. McNeil discussed W. Mill and 4 E3 students currently on trip attending CADCA in Washington, DC. (Feb 4-7). With special thanks to Old Saybrook Education Foundation's for their grant to help with some costs of the trip. Upon their return, W. Mill with 1-2 students will be at next meeting to discuss the trip.

**Summer Stock and Other Community Programs**

H. McNeil and W. Mill had discussed with J. Paradis the intricacies of the summer theater program. There has been some overlap in community programs and challenges for securing space. Parks & Rec is considering taking on the summer stock program.

In addition, J. Paradis and H. McNeil had a meeting with Acton Library Director and Youth Director regarding duplication of some programming. They all mutually agreed to strategically review programming options, schedules, etc. going forward for the best interests and support of the community.

J. Paradis also mentioned his meeting with Superintendent Perruccio to discuss the impact of 4<sup>th</sup> grade moving to Goodwin School. With the move, parents are concerned about P& R and YFS programs not being available at Goodwin. With the move, OSMS classrooms will open up for programs.

**Prevention Programming**

E3/YAC Youth are very active and plan to get in front of local organizations to speak of their efforts and legislation mandates. Met with State Rep. Devin Carney who has been supportive.

H. McNeil and Superintendent Perruccio to hold a Community Conversation with parents re: vaping Feb. 25 at OSMS/evening

Marijuana Task Force- CT service organizations working to craft a message next week. Working to oppose legalization of recreational usage. Job of service agencies to work for prevention of underage usage.

February 26<sup>th</sup> Impact of Opioids in Your Community (9am-12pm) at the OS Pavilion (flyer to be distributed).

**OSHS Wellness Week (week of March 25<sup>th</sup>)**

Possible topics include health, stress release, aromatherapy, etc.

**OSMS Wellness Day April 11<sup>th</sup>****Other**

H. McNeil announced that through our Tri-Town participation in the Holiday Boutique at Old Lyme Country Club we earned \$545 to benefit agency programs. We look forward to participating next year.

Internship interviews underway: Rutgers, CCSU, SCSU and UCONN

H. McNeil asked for comments from student representatives:

	Code Red drill at OSHS this week. Very effective, tends to be once a month. M. Rafferty commented that the state is requiring more safety drills at schools.
<b>VII. Old Business</b>	Nothing to report.
<b>VIII. New Business</b>	<b>Action steps and advocacy or report on initiatives by Commission members</b> Next YFS Commission meeting scheduled for <b>March 5, 2019@ 6:00PM</b>
<b>IX. Other Business</b>	Nothing to report.
<b>X. Adjournment</b>	<b>Motion</b> made by S.Tiezzi to adjourn the meeting at 6:10 PM. The motion was seconded by P. McNeil and was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Angela Gaidry, Recording Clerk