

**Old Saybrook Youth & Family Services
Commission Meeting
Tuesday, December 1, 2020; 5:00 PM
Via Teleconference Due to COVID19/Corona Virus State of CT Public Health Emergency**

YFS Commission Meeting Playlist:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLKX0JMf1KPp8lRBZS_ZdP8IwLPaujsfIH

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

I. Roll Call	<p>Attendant Members: Mike Rafferty, Chair; Michael Spera, Chief of Police; Lisa Castro, Old Saybrook Middle School Counselor; David Plotkin, Community At-Large Member; Jeff Harder, Community At-Large Member, Jonathan Paradis, Old Saybrook Parks and Recreation, Mary Ann Iadarola, Public Health Nursing Board Representative</p> <p>Absent Members: N/A Student Representatives: Libby Stuart Absent Student Representatives: Joe Bradley, Kyle Wisialowski Attendant Staff: Heather McNeil, Executive Director Angela Gaidry, Commission Clerk</p>
II. Call to Order	<p>Meeting called to order at 5:07 PM by H. McNeil. Pledge of Allegiance</p>
III. Comments from the Public	<p>No one from the public was present.</p>
IV. Approval of Minutes	<p>Motion made by M. Spera to approve the minutes of Tuesday, November 12, 2020 as presented. M. Rafferty pointed out a typo for date correction re: turkey distribution. The motion was seconded by L. Castro and approved.</p>
V. Chairman's Comments	<p>M. Rafferty offered a moment of silence for Town Treasurer Robert Fish (passed away Nov. 19, 2020) for his years of service and dedication to Old Saybrook. M. Rafferty mentioned Jen Welsh (former Chair of this commission) was honored at annual meeting for her volunteer service and dedication throughout the years. She and Chuck Wehrly (WPCA) recognized on inside front cover of annual report.</p> <p>Commend H. McNeil & YFS Team for wonderful program offerings.</p>
VI. Director's Report for 12/01/2020	<p>Commission Article Further discussion- H.MNeil, M. Rafferty, J. Harder</p> <p>Recognition Congratulations to student rep J. Bradley for Oct. Student of the Month and OSHS drama department's radio production of War of the Worlds.</p> <p>Budget Anticipate needed funds for electronic medical records, Tele-health platform and other HIPAA compliant resources as clinicians and staff work remotely.</p> <p>CAFÉ Events Upcoming C.A.F.E. programs Tuesday 6:00-7:15PM: -Grief Support 12/7/20 facilitated by Joanne Deal – In addition to possible loss of loved ones, there are other losses due to COVID, including loss of daily routines, school, job loss, travel plans, prom, etc. -Suicide Awareness & Prevention 12/8/20 facilitated by H. McNeil & S. Steinmacher (YFS LPC)</p>

	<p>Current School Groups (Remote) 4th Grade Zen Time (followed by parent time)- C. Graham and J. Tedesco 6th-7th Grade Chat & Chill</p> <p>E3 Governor's Prevention Partnership (GPP) OS High School health class (4th year of program) - coordinators virtually</p> <p>Holiday Giving/Turkey Distribution OSPD Turkey Event @ Stop & Shop November 21-22. Turkey Distribution November 23-24 (only police staff & H. McNeil involved onsite)</p> <p>H.McNeil thanked L. Castro & OSMS for generous donation. L. Castro mentioned SRO organizing toy drive; H. McNeil suggested any donations of tape & batteries to be dropped off @ OSPD.</p> <p>J. Paradis- Park & Rec had to cancel many in-person events. Some virtual events include and/or TBD online games, virtual chess, youth fitness, daily/weekly challenges, etc. Any ideas please forward to P & R.</p> <p>YFS- Several youth have admitted "zoom fatigue"- truly want to meet in-person when safe to do so.</p> <p>Other Updates L. Castro- everyone is tired and concerned w/rising COVID cases. Gatherings at Thanksgiving and beyond. Uptick in mental health services.</p> <p>YFS- Full-time clinician pregnant (March due date). MFT Intern graduating in May and other clinicians will fulfill case load. Increase in clients seeking services.</p> <p>M. Iadarola (PHN Board) – has not heard from nurse in town. Upcoming mtg Thursday- will have more info. next commission mtg.</p> <p>Social Services for further information re: needs of community Help is available for heating assistance, food assistance, etc. Confidentiality is always paramount. Contact Susan Consoli, Social Services 860-395-3188</p>
VII. Old Business	Nothing to report.
VIII. New Business	<p>Action steps and advocacy or report on initiatives by Commission members. Budget TBA</p> <p>M. Rafferty wishing everyone "safe & memorable holidays". H.McNeil- OSECC coordinator B. Eckert will join us next meeting to discuss "One Book, One Town"</p> <p>Next YFS Commission meeting January 5, 2021.</p>
IX. Other Business	Nothing to report.
X. Adjournment	Motion made by M. Spera to adjourn the meeting at 5:34PM. The motion was seconded and approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Gaidry, Recording Clerk