

**Old Saybrook Youth & Family Services
Commission Meeting
Tuesday, January 4, 2022; 5:00 PM
Via Teleconference and In-person**

YFS Commission Meeting Playlist:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLbEt7-HiGQ8lg0PvMBKyiD3YRDhLnur-W>

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

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| I. Roll Call | <p>Attendant Members: Mike Rafferty, Chair; Michael Spera, Chief of Police; Jonathan Paradis, Old Saybrook Parks and Recreation; Lisa Castro, Old Saybrook Middle School Counselor; David Plotkin, Community At-Large Member; Jeff Harder, Community At-Large Member, Mary Ann Iadarola, Public Health Nursing Board Representative</p> <p>Absent Members: n/a</p> <p>Student Representative(s): Libby Stuart</p> <p>Attendant Staff: Heather McNeil, Executive Director Brittany Eckert, Program Coordinator Angela Gaidry, Commission Clerk</p> |
| II. Call to Order | Meeting called to order at 5:00 pm by M. Rafferty Pledge of Allegiance |
| III. Comments from the Public | None |
| IV. Approval of Minutes | Motion made by D. Plotkin to approve the minutes of Tuesday, December 7, 2021 as presented. The motion was seconded by L. Castro and approved. |
| V. Chairman’s Comments | Acknowledgement of YFS continuation of great programs and activities within the community. |
| VI. Director’s Report for 1/04/2022 | <p><u>Budget FY 2022-2023</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slight increase over last year due to change in personnel, insurance (employee benefits), loss of Middlesex UW funding. Revenue generation down due to staff shortage over the past year. • Chief Spera: budget is in line with the changes and reasonable. Other areas within the budget have remained flat and consistent year-to-year. H McNeil has done more with same amount of funding. • YFS will continue offering other programs to offset the loss in UW funds. • In addition, working on a request for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding • Chief Spera made motion to approve budget as presented, M. Iadarola seconded. Unanimously approved by YFS Commission members. <p><u>Holiday Giving 2021 recap YFS & Social Services</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B. Eckert - over 116 families registered, over 200 youth provided variety of gifts, bikes, etc. • Thank you to community, area businesses, and local residents for its generosity and OSPD for its assistance and collaboration. |

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| | <p><u>Positive Youth Development Programming</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On Friday had scheduled a small field trip (10-13 students) to adhere to CDC guidelines. By request of Superintendent Perruccio we have postponed due to public health concerns. • After School Enrichment programs will be offered at the end of the month cohorted by grades (replicate the model in school) • Programs/workshops to address social emotional regulation and learning, resilience and anxiety. • Circle of Security (parent programming) – Program Coordinator B.Eckert, Clinician Adam Stahr both certified facilitators to offer a workshop Feb 8th. Hope to offer food & childcare to increase attendance - a big need in order for parents to take part in the workshop. • Drop In at OSHS on Thursdays • Lisa C: value the interns, students happy to have them there. Thrilled to have Adam back. • H.McNeil thank you to J. Paradis - phenomenal programming at Parks & Rec. <p><u>Other:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on Libby’s suggestion YFS drop-in hours during OSHS mid-terms for stress management • Libby mentioned in previous years National Honor Society (NHS) would hold PJs & Prep for freshman and sophomore - not sure if this year due to covid? • D. Plotkin – before holiday break 8th grade team had various activities with community members, incl. YFS Brittany & Laura (social services) discussion on poverty & homelessness. Thank you. • J. Paradis - Congrats to Old Saybrook Early Childhood Council (OSECC) and Brittany on 12 Days of Books – great community and family project leading up to Christmas. |
| VII. Old Business | Nothing to report. |
| VIII. New Business | Action steps and advocacy or report on initiatives by Commission members. Next YFS Commission meeting February 1, 2022. |
| IX. Other Business | Nothing to report. |
| X. Adjournment | M. Rafferty adjourns the meeting at 5:30 PM. |

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Gaidry, Recording Clerk