

## **Commission on Youth Services Meeting Minutes**

### **10/17/16**

**Members Present:** Angela Ciottone, Bob Ravens-Seeger, Karin Kido, Carrie Tuczinski, Steve Orłowski, Rachel Griffin

**Staff Present:** Sue Lawshe

**Members of the Public:** Jim Hayden

- 1. Call to Order:** 6:30pm
- 2. Public Comment:** None
- 3. Correspondence:** None
- 4. Review of Minutes:** Bob motioned. Karin second. Unanimously approved.
- 5. Additions to Agenda:** None
- 6. Old Business:**
  - a. Programming***
    - Safe Dates flyers were drafted; however there were 2 different versions due to delay and approaching deadline. The version that was completed first was approved by Angela (via multiple email communications to staff/commission members) and is the one posted online, sent to the school, and sent for distribution in Talk Turkey newsletter. Jim to ensure first version sent to Nicole by Angela to be published in Talk Turkey.
    - Angela had, prior to meeting, requested that an additional informative write-up be completed by staff regarding the Safe Dates program to also be included with the flyer in newsletter. As of tonight's meeting, no write up had been submitted and the deadline was missed. Sue said she would ensure that something get drafted and over to Jim who would see to its inclusion in newsletter.
    - Safe Dates will be conducted at Middle School first starting Nov. 3 – Sue L. will arrange for the offering of this program at HS later in the Spring. She will inquire about prevention speakers that the school may be interested in.
    - A flyer for Pact360 – an upcoming parental drug awareness/prevention program – was drafted by staff and will be distributed in hand-out bags at upcoming Halloween Party. It was decided not to include the Safe Dates flyer. The Pact360 flyer will also be forwarded to the school by staff for possible publication and will be included in Talk Turkey.
    - Annual Halloween Party (sponsored by YSB and Park/Rec) is scheduled for 10/28. Volunteers are still needed for the event. Karin will post a call for volunteers on Facebook.
    - There was renewed discussion about how to streamline efforts between YSB staff and the commission to ensure that YSB communications/promotional material are timely and reflective of what has been discussed and agreed upon mutually. Angela, as commission

chair, requested again that all final draft materials be sent to her for review prior to submission for publication and the board agreed.

**b. Youth Action Council**

- Neither YAC facilitator was available for update at meeting, but Carrie gave an overview of possible plans/initiatives with the HS group. Follow up discussions about the table banner were held, and Karin will forward on the logos in the hopes of having a table with literature available at the Halloween party and various other events to increase awareness.

**7. New Business**

**a. Programming**

- Youth Prevention Speakers: 2 different speakers were identified by Angela and Karin as potentials in delivering a community and/or school based drug-prevention program: one is Ginger Katz of the Courage to Speak Foundation (fee to run is approx. \$1250); the other is Charles Grady who is part of an FBI task force aimed at increasing awareness to kids and families regarding the increasing dangers of opioid drug addiction. Angela has requested (prior to meeting) that staff identify an intern or other employee who may be able to attend/preview one or both of these programs to determine the suitability in proposing them to our school administration. No word yet on whom may be able to do this. Sue L. will look into further.
- Current upcoming programming approved includes Safe Dates, Pact360 and the Halloween Party.
- There was lengthy discussion regarding the unapproved promotion/offering of the Go Girls/Go Boys program within the recent Talk Turkey newsletter. It had been discussed at several prior meetings that these programs would *not* be offered this year due to consistent lack of enrollment. Questions were raised by commission regarding how funding for such programs is allocated within programming budget; staff indicated that the program is “always offered and doesn’t cost anything to be offered” but that if it does actually run, then necessary money is taken from programming budget. Staff was unable to indicate the estimated dollar amount of programming funds required in order to run these programs if a minimum number of kids do enroll. Following the promotion, no children have registered for either program. This program will not be an offering through the EG Youth Service Bureau as previously communicated.
- The ARC Babysitting Training program will be offered again in the spring.
- Coordinating w/Schools: general discussion was had regarding how to continue to foster partnerships with the schools in the delivery of programs/events sponsored by YSB. Angela, along with both YSB youth reps, will be presenting at the upcoming BOE meeting (10/24) about the opioid epidemic in the hopes of initiating discussion and/or coordinating some prevention programming at a General Assembly.

**b. Media/Publication**

- Talk Turkey: as previously noted above regarding prior distribution of materials by staff should be sent to Angela prior to submission for publication.
- Website/Facebook: Karin has added an email subscriber feature to the website to allow people to become part of a mailing list for programs/events. Updates were also made to include promotions of the Safe Dates and Pact360 programs. Karin will add updates to

both website/FB to include info regarding the upcoming Drug Take Back Day and to solicit more volunteers for Halloween Party.

- Staff raised discussion about whether or not the Facebook page should be a closed group. This topic will be explored and discussed further at the next meeting.

**8. Public Comment:** NONE

**9. Adjournment:** Bob motioned, Karin second. Motion unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

**Next meeting:** Monday, November 21, 2016 - 6:30pm

Respectfully Submitted,

*Karin E. Kido*

Karin E. Kido  
Vice Chair, Commission on Youth Services