

**MEETING MINUTES  
YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2021  
6:30 P.M., EAST GRANBY TOWN HALL**

**Members present: Bob Ravens-Seger, Josette Lumbruno, Erin Russell, Jonathan Ciottone, Angela Ciottone. Staff present: Alicia Van Neil, Bonnie Jones. Members of the public: First Selectman Jim Hayden, Chenoa Anderson.**

1. Call To Order – The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.
2. Public Comment on Agenda Items – None.
3. Correspondence – None.
4. Review of Minutes – Bob motioned to accept the July 2021 Meeting Minutes, seconded by Josette. Unanimously approved.
5. Additions To Agenda – None.
6. Old Business

-HS YAC Facilitator Update (Alicia) – an interview with a candidate has been scheduled for 9/22/21 with both Jonathan and Erin participating in the interviewing process of the candidate on behalf of the Commission.

- Status/Report of Surveys YAC – Alicia has received surveys back from the middle school YAC. The participants all provided positive responses. Two areas of improvement to implement included being able to participate in the budgeting process for events and rotating leading the meetings. All agreed that these ideas were excellent and attempts would be made to ensure these would be implemented. Alicia will have the HS YAC survey results for the October meeting. The HS YAC is set to meet the last week of each month. Team building events are planned for both the MS and HS YAC groups.

-Town Meditation (Josette/Mason/Alicia) – Josette is ready for the event on 10/3, and the event has been advertised. The barn will be used should the weather not cooperate.

## 7. New Business

- Programming Pursuant to C.G.S. 10-19m(b) (3-6 Programs Mason) – Alicia reported on developing programming including Emerging Leaders for 3-5<sup>th</sup> graders and Life Skills for High Schoolers. Bob suggested prevention programming should be on our radar. Vaping and marijuana use was suggested due to dangers to teens. Alicia will reach out to Annmarie Cox for programming suggestions. Mental health programming was also discussed. Jonathan shared that High School students were still struggling trying to get back to normal socializing due to anxiety surrounding Covid. He shared his observations that many students keep to small groups, and that there may be a long term impact on younger kids from social isolation. Alicia will speak with Sue about programming ideas to address these issues. Alicia provided an update on the Halloween party which will be outdoors at Newgate Prison. The MS YAC will help run games, there will be a photo booth and a YSB table that needed to be manned. Angela volunteered to run the YSB table.
- Mindfulness Meditation (Josette) – Josette will be offering this program after school for three weeks to Seymour students. We will continue to work with the schools to offer meditation to possibly fulfill a need prior to a home game or during exams.

## 8. Promotion

- Talk Turkey Submission (Alicia) – Alicia has ensured that the YSB has updates available on an ongoing basis.
- Upcoming Events and Status of Brochures/Table and Tablecloth (Mason/Alicia) – Alicia provided the Commission with a draft brochure with requests for edits to be provided to her by Friday. A banner for a table is

being made as well with a new logo. Discussion was held on the colors. A request was made to change the purple lettering to the school color and the other lettering to match the lighter blue color on the logo. All brochures and the banner will be ready in time for Josette's Town Meditation event.

9. Membership – Chenoa Anderson has a background in education and is interested in membership. She would be an asset to the Commission, and we encouraged her to join. She will let Jim or Alicia know if she would like to be appointed by the Board of Selectmen.
10. Public Comment – First Selectman Jim Hayden reported that we have received federal funds for social isolation programming to deal with the impact of Covid. We are hoping to use some funds for programming through the YSB.
11. Adjournment – Erin moved to adjourn, seconded by Josette. Unanimously accepted. The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

**Next meeting: October 18, 2021**

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Ciottone, Chair