

## North Reading Youth Services Committee Meeting

**Date/Time:** Monday, December 20, 2021 / 6:00 pm

**Location:** Zoom -Teleconference

Committee Members Present	Committee Members Absent	Guests/Visitors Present
Peter Majane, Chair	Amy DiChiara	Beatriz Vautin, potential member
Jason Slattery, Vice-Chair	Patty Harrington	Jacob Mullin-Bernstein, potential member
Deborah Mahoney, Secretary	Leslie Schultz	Rebecca Griffin, potential member
Jodi Sponzo	Frank Ferraro	Jennifer Ford, Director of Youth Services
Yan Huang		

**Chair Peter Majane called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.**

**1. Review of Minutes:** November 22, 2021 minutes were reviewed and accepted.

**2. Financial Report:** YS Director Jen Ford reported no change in finances.

**3. Participation Report:** Youth Services hosted FaceTime with Santa in early December and like last year, it was a huge success. YS Director Jen Ford committed to making the conversations with Santa very personalized by sending a google form to parents/guardians in advance of their scheduled meeting time. Santa visited with 64 kids. YS Director Jen Ford met with a few groups on Zoom this month but meetings have been limited because YS Director Jen Ford is dealing with some unavoidable family issues. Jacob Mullin-Bernstein, a potential committee member, ran one of the MS Youth Group. YAT is trying to partner with guidance to send a message to students about support the guidance office offers. YS Director Jen Ford sent a letter to the guidance office and will follow up after the New Year.

YS Director Jen Ford's limited availability this month led to the committee discussing how members can be more involved in the programming? Chair Peter Majane reminded YS Director Jen Ford that members are here to support her and to send out any requests for assistance. There was a discussion about building an infrastructure that we have in place for members to be supporting YS Director Jen Ford and the YS programs. Members could be aligned with their interests and should be checking the YS website for programming.

**4. Social Services Report:** YS Director Jen Ford was asked to provide a letter of recommendation for a HS senior applying for a Coca Cola scholarship. YS Director Jen Ford felt very honored and has since heard that the student got accepted into Harvard University and is waiting to hear about the scholarship. Last month YS Director Jen Ford had a lot of conversations, mostly with students, about college applications and community service. Jacob Mullin-Bernstein offered to assist with college applications. Beatriz Vautin offered to make connections with professionals in trades as an option to college. Guiding Good Choices is looking to offer possibilities going into 2022 including the option to attend just one session. Hopefully the program will be promoted in January and start in February.

**5. Old Business:** No old business.

**6. New Business:** Chair Peter Majane opened the discussion for nominating a Chair and Co-Chair. Deb Mahoney nominated Peter Majane as Chair and Jason Slattery as Vice-Chair. The committee unanimously agreed to these nominations. Peter mentioned that Deb Mahoney agreed to continue as Secretary.

Chair Peter Majane welcomed Rebecca Griffin who is interested in being a committee member. Rebecca Griffin introduced herself and gave us her background and why she is interested in being a member.

Chair Peter Majane thanked everyone for attending and reminded YS Director Jen Ford to let us know how committee members can help her. The committee had a brief discussion and presented ideas for moving this forward. YS Director Jen Ford will come up with her ideas and share with the committee in the New Year.

Yan Huang asked for a follow up on when the committee can meet in person. The committee held a discussion about the current environment and it was decided to table this item until we have more guidance from the Town and then we will discuss it again. The activity room at the library may also be a meeting option once we are able to meet in person. It was suggested that the committee have a celebration gathering so we could at least see each other in person and get to know one another. This idea will be explored in the spring when the weather is nicer.


Chair Peter Majane again thanked all committee members and visitors for attending and wished them well in the New Year.

Next meeting: January 24, 2022.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Documents/Handouts	
November 2021 Minutes	

January 24, 2022  
Minutes Approved on Date

  
Peter Majane, Committee Chair