North Reading Youth Services Committee Meeting

Date/Time: Monday, July 25, 2022 / 6:00 pm Location: Zoom -Teleconference

Committee Members Present		Committee	Guests/Visitors Present
		Members Absent	
Peter Majane, Chair	Frank Ferraro	Amy DiChiara	Jen Ford, YS Director
Jason Slattery, Vice-Chair	Beatriz Vautin	Yan Huang	Rich Wallner, Select Board
Deborah Mahoney, Secretary	Kathleen Logan		
Jacob Mullin-Bernstein	Jodi Sponzo		
Leslie Schultz			

Chair Peter Majane called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Chair Majane introduced Rich Wallner who is our new liaison from the Select Board. Mr. Wallner introduced himself and let the committee know he supports social services and community building.

1. Review of Minutes: June 27, 2022 minutes were reviewed and accepted.

2. Financial Report: YS Director Jen Ford did spend some of her budget to provide lunch and snacks for the recently held CPR/First Aid program.

3. Social Services Report: Nothing to report.

4. Participation Report: There are not a lot of youth registering up front for programs but some are registering last minute and programs are still being held, even with minimal attendance. As part of the Keeping It Real series, CPR/First Aid was a great experience for nine youth. The resume writing/mock interview session is this Wednesday with two youth registered. YS Director Jen Ford is being creative with the Youth Action team. As mentioned in the past our group has worked with Wakefield YAT but recently their advisors resigned and they are in the process of finding new ones. Wakefield has paid youth positions and we are trying to replicate this model. YS Director Jen Ford is writing position descriptions for one representative from each grade, 8-12. A committee member mentioned that youth younger than 14 cannot be paid. YAT is partnering with the Food Pantry to support a backpack drive. There is a possibility of two YAT events in August with the members being role models/mentors for elementary youth, together engaging with Peabody Court residents. YS Director Jen Ford continues to support Dungeons and Dragons at the library which has had consistent participation over the summer. Guiding Good Choices starts Wednesday and five are registered. National Night Out is on August 2. Youth Services will have a table set up. If committee members can attend to help build a Youth Service presence in the community please be in touch with YS Director Jen Ford.

5. Old Business: No old business.

6. New Business: There was a discussion about the new Public Services Director position and how it will fit into the Town structure and Youth Services. Hopefully the new position of Public Services Director will help bring cohesion to the town. Select Board member Rich Wallner stated that he plans to meet with the new director. He then talked more on the background of this position and the future of our town, most specifically families leaving town when their children graduate high school. Select Board member Rich Wallner asked Chair Majane to inform him of issues facing Youth Services

and he will try to help us accomplish our goals. A current issue is that Chair Majane has attempted numerous times to get a meeting with the Town Administrator and has not had any success after months. This led to a larger discussion about how Youth Services and the committee is not recognized by our own town and many do not know we exist. Chair Majane called for a vote to begin in-person meetings with a hybrid component if needed. There was a majority vote in favor and the August meeting will be held at the Flint Memorial Library meeting room.

Chair Peter Majane thanked all for attending tonight.

Next meeting: August 22, 2022

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Documents/Handouts			
June 2022 Minutes			

Minutes Approved on Date

Peter Majane, Committee Chair