

North Reading Youth Services Committee Meeting

Date/Time: Monday, June 25, 2018 6:00pm **Location:** North Reading Town Hall, Rm. 10

Committee Members Present		Committee Members Absent	Guests/Visitors Present
Peter Majane, Chair	Christy Dampousse	Judy Hall	Jason Slattery
Frank Ferraro, Vice-Chair	Sandy Garniss	Samantha Miller	Jennifer Ford, Y.S. Director
Karen Buscemi, Secretary	Kathy Dardeno		Rita Mullen, C.I.T. Member
Leslie Shultz	Patty Harrington		
Amy DiChiara			

Chairman Peter Majane called the meeting to order at 6:01pm.

1. **Review of Previous Minutes:** May 21, 2018 minutes were reviewed and accepted unanimously.
2. **Financial Report:** It was outlined that next month should reflect an increase in revenue due to Jen Ford's implementation of the sale of "Positivity Bracelets". They have been advertised on the Youth Services website and the Facebook page. Jen is still trying to get the word out about offerings and support from Youth Services. It was suggested that the bracelets be sold during the Back-to-School nights and other school events. Jen stated there's a tentative date (Aug. 23) for the Round Table event for incoming 6th and 9th graders. The 9th grade has been confirmed.
3. **Social Services Report:** Jennifer Ford has invited a high school student to work with her on the Youth Services social media sites to boost presence. The annual White Water Rafting trips were discussed and outlined to always be a hit with the kids. Jen outlined there's a video online to watch to give kids/parents an idea about what to expect. There was concern that the high school InterAct Club had disbanded and Jen offered to assist the Middle and High School Early Act Clubs to keep them going. Jen outlined she continues to stay in contact with the psychology, guidance, and media departments in all the schools in order to increase presence and exposure to Youth Services.
4. **Participation Report:** Jennifer Ford reported that 4 new youths had joined from the Middle and High School.
5. **CIT Update:** Jennifer Ford outlined again that North Reading has been chosen as a study site by CADCA, slated for August 7th and 8th. They are interested to see how CIT and Youth Services partner with the police department. It was noted that "National Night Out" is during the same time as CADCA's visit. Jen assured all that both events will be fully covered. This year there is hope to create a higher profile for the Domestic Violence/Substance Abuse Walk. It was also noted that local performances from the town's youth needed to be increased as it has diminished over the years.
6. **Old Business:** Nothing was reviewed.
7. **New Business:** It was stressed again that the High School Youth Group needs to be revived. Jen noted that the White Water Rafting trip for the Middle School and High School will be of mixed ages due to conflicting family schedules. Parents asked if high schoolers could attend the middle school raft trip and vice versa due to conflicts on outlined dates and Jen granted permission. A drafted letter to Town Administrator Michael Gilleberto was reviewed and discussed. It was outlined that the word "youth" really needs to be in the forefront of all discussions. It was noted that there will most likely be many questions to answer during the town meeting. It was also noted that perhaps Elder Services may have questions. It was suggested that the Selectmen and the Finance Department be notified of intended name change. It was outlined that the services within the Youth Services Department has serviced the youth as a "unit" (which included the family), so this is really nothing "new". Jen added that her summer programming contains a lot of family-oriented events as well. It was suggested the letter be edited to include the fact that Youth Services has always been servicing youth and their families. It was then voted that Jen Ford, Peter Majane, and Frank Ferraro will present and discuss the letter with Town Administrator Michael Gilleberto. A recent news story of teen suicide was mentioned and it was outlined that it's not just "troubled" youth that commit suicide. It was mentioned that "13 Reasons Why" was in its second season and is still very controversial. To boost presence, it was suggested that any news articles that are shared via social media contain a link to the North Reading Youth Services Department. A question was raised as to why some of the named issues on the Social Services Participation Tracker has been blank for years (e.g. dating, rape/aggression) and it was outlined that no calls have been received regarding those issues and then it was suggested that perhaps people are not aware of the services offered by Youth Services. The question of quorums came up and it was outlined that the Youth Services Committee can talk without a quorum but cannot vote on anything. The concern was raised due to lower attendance of meetings during the summer due to vacations and family commitments. The committee was asked to "reply all" when a meeting reminder comes

out so the committee knows prior to meeting whether there will be a quorum. The membership of Judy Hall was discussed and it was outlined that all she needs to do to step down is write a letter of resignation to committee chair, Peter Majane.

Next meeting: Monday, July 23, 2018 - 6:00pm, Room 10

Meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Documents/Handouts	
Committee Meeting Agenda	Committee Minutes from May Meeting
Financial Report	Participation Report
Department Name Change Letter To Town Administrator	Jennifer Ford, Y.S. Director 60-Day Update

September 24, 2018
Minutes Approved on Date

Peter Majane
Peter Majane, Committee Chair