

North Reading Youth Services Committee Meeting

Date/Time: Monday, May 23, 2022 / 6:00 pm **Location:** Zoom -Teleconference

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

Vice-Chair Jason Slattery called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

1. Review of Minutes: April 25, 2022 minutes were reviewed and accepted.

2. Financial Report: YS Director Jen Ford reported no change in finances. She may try to purchase some items before the end of the fiscal year to prepare for the summer programs.

3. Social Services Report: YS Director Jen Ford still has a lot of conversations with youth about community service and colleges but both of these topics are winding down. Youth who have not decided their next path after graduation continue to struggle. In North Reading we do not do the best job preparing youth who decide not to attend college with various career or schooling options. How could we share non-college options with our youth (trades, military, etc.)?

4. Participation Report: MS Youth Group welcomed a new member last week and it was a breath of fresh air to have someone new join them. Dungeons & Dragons is offered at Flint Memorial Library on Tuesday afternoons. YS Director Jen Ford attended the first session to support the program. Five youth showed up and they had a good experience and she received an email from a parent thanking her for attending as an adult in the community, not as a facilitator. Spring programs are wrapping up and summer planning has started. Last summer Youth Services offered a program for high school students with resume writing, mock interviews and CPR, and they are hoping to offer a program this summer with some basic life skills (i.e. banking, investments, sewing, ironing). Committee members brainstormed various topics to include and YS Director Jen Ford will create a google doc to work on a Life Skills program and will share this document with the committee to receive input. Planning has begun for both HS and MS summer youth groups and possibly a 6th grade girls group. Space and transportation are an issue. YS used to borrow a van from Elder Services but if that is not available that limits opportunities. YS Director Jen Ford will check with the school to see if using their vans is a possibility.

5. Old Business: No old business.

6. New Business: YS Director Jen Ford does not like youth and families having to pay for services but has charged for some programs in the past. We cannot fundraise as a department but can look for grants to provide YS money for programming. The committee had an in-depth fundraising conversation. YS Director Jen Ford heard, though not officially, that we did not get approved for an assistant for Youth Services but the position will be revisited at the October meeting.

Next meeting: June 27, 2022

Meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Documents/Handouts	
April 2022 Minutes	

June 27, 2022

Minutes Approved on Date


Peter Majane, Committee Chair