

## North Reading Youth Services Committee Meeting

**Date/Time:** Monday, Oct. 28, 2019 — 6 p.m.

**Location:** North Reading Town Hall, Rm. 10

Committee Members Present		Committee Members Absent	Guests/Visitors Present
Peter Majane, Chair	Jason Slattery	Leslie Schultz	Jennifer Ford, Y.S. Director
Frank Ferraro, Vice-Chair	Patty Harrington	Karen Buscemi, Secretary	
Amy DiChiara	Samantha Miller		
Christy Damphousse			
Danielle Masterson			

**Chairman Peter Majane called the meeting to order.**

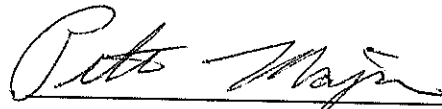
- 1. Review of Previous Minutes:** Sept. 23, 2019 minutes were reviewed and accepted unanimously.
- 2. Financial Report:** YS Director Jennifer Ford reported receiving a grant from Reading Co-operative Bank for \$1,000, as well as \$150 from Early Act donations. Thank yous will be sent.
- 3. Social Services Report:** Jennifer Ford said she is being contacted more by members of the community. She is also at the high school quite often, which is resulting in better communication.
- 4. Participation Report:** Jennifer Ford reported participation is increasing, and is currently at 99% of the FY18 numbers and 67% of FY19.
- 5. Old Business:**
  - The fundraising idea of tote bags was mentioned again. Committee members will call the local vocational schools about prices for totes to be made there.
  - Jennifer reported scheduling a meeting with Town Administrator Michael Gilleberto to discuss overlap between departments. She will also discuss the volunteer program idea, which would allow for programming to continue even if the Youth Services Director is sick or on vacation. The volunteer program is needed because the town has maxed out its capabilities with a one-person department and more staff is needed for Youth Services to maintain service and grow. Committee members noted that Jennifer has “run out of days of the week to run all these programs.” Jennifer reported she lost 80 hours in compensatory time during the previous year.
  - The department budget is due to the Town Administrator’s office in December.
- 6. New Business:**
  - Jennifer Ford reported meeting with student class officers since the last meeting.

- b. In response to a committee question, Jennifer noted that programs are created either through need or identification of what types of events could help youth.
- c. Jennifer is also part of the SSAT — Social Services Action Team — which is working on creating intergenerational programs. Our town's most at-risk populations are younger and older people. As part of these events, Jennifer is hoping to have a Thanksgiving project. She is also taking part in Project 500 — 500 residents over 65 years old have been identified as living alone and she hopes to hold an event in the winter with NOTEorious, games, and more for young and old to share.
- d. The Reality Fair is expected to be held again in 2020. Jennifer is speaking with the high school about scheduling. The committee plans to have a Reality Fair sub-committee to build on last year's success and suggestions.
- e. Social media "likes" on Facebook are up from 384 to 529; while Instagram has increased as well.

**Next meeting:** Monday, Dec. 16, 2019 — 6 p.m., NR Town Hall, Rm. 10

Documents/Handouts	
Committee Meeting Agenda	Committee Minutes from September Meeting
Financial Report	Social Services/Participation Report

December 16, 2019  
Minutes Approved on Date

  
Peter Majane, Committee Chair