

Youth Service Committee Meeting 3/26/2018

Attendants: Michelle Piccerillo, Lauren Blackwell, Lisa Keegan, Michelle Wynn, Jim Jinks, Mark Dellostritto, Marlene Silano, Officer Sam DeCapua, Detective Eric Tracy, Tom Bergvik, Grace Jinks, Erick Gunther

Meeting Called to Order at 7:05 pm

Michelle was pleased to announce that we had a quorum

Michelle announced that both William Kalinowksi and Rosa Solla's terms had ended

Officers were elected:

Chairperson: Grace Jinks

Vice- Chair: Tom Bergvik

Secretary: Lisa Keegan

Detective Eric Tracy gave an update on the JRB

- JRB had 3-4 cases last month, expecting 5 cases next month
- Most cases are E-Cigarettes offenses
- Feedback is generally good for the JRB. Positive that offenses are not more serious.
- Changes are coming, ie changing of ages of juveniles.

State Budget update was given by Michelle

- Local budget was cut 5%
- Concerned because Youth Services is working in conjunction with the BOE in respect to School Safety. Requests for Youth officer at Dodd, increase in Cheshire Human Services Clinician hours.
- Budget presentation Wednesday night

Lauren Blackwell spoke of Youth Services Initiatives and the Yellow House

- Initiatives include: Literacy Support, RAD Lab, Teen Helper Program, Friday and Saturday program for 4th, 5th and 6th grades.
- All programs well attended

Michelle spoke about the Opioid Crisis

- Recently applied and received a \$5K grant to help support and mobilize addiction
- Narcan Training discussed
- Taking a community approach for support. Some actions include:
 - Training of Town and School Employees in Mental Health First Aid
 - Conducting Adolescent screening for potential substance addiction
- In February, brought 8 HS students to the Taming Effect. A youth led prevention program
- Working on tailoring this to bring presentation to 6th graders and Middle Schoolers.

- Working with Chesprocott to encourage providers to prescribe responsibly.
- Contacted Local Realtors regarding Open House awareness. Addicts taking drugs.
- May 10th- Dr. Ruth Potti will speak at the High School regarding drugs, alcohol & opioids
- Definite Progression from prescription drugs to heroine

Michelle presented the Cheshire Cheshire Youth Services Calendar to the committee

- Calendar was approved

Michelle proposed an Initiative for the committee to help inform the community of Vaping

- Vaping is a gateway to risk behavior
- E-Cigarettes used for tobacco and marijuana
- How can we help?
- Marlene Silano will check with the Cheshire Public Schools Health Curriculum at see if it includes Vaping. Will also reach out to Mike Woods at Dodd for ideas
- Ideas- Informing parents and youth, literature for local convenience stores

Social Media is a Major Concern

- This winter showed Screenagers at the High School- regarding appropriate screen time
- Perhaps disseminate guidelines to community about what appropriate screen time is
- Community Screen Free Day a possibility

Meeting was adjourned at 8:01 pm.

Minutes: Lisa Keegan