

TOWN OF BARNSTABLE BARNSTABLE RECREATION DIVISION

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Barnstable Youth Commission Minutes Hyannis Youth and Community Center Conference Room Wednesday, January 11, 2017; 6:30 P.M. - 7:45 P.M.

A quorum being duly present, Chairman Brendan Clark called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. in the Hyannis Youth and Community Center Conference Room, 141 Bassett Lane, Hyannis, MA 02601.

Present: Brendan W. Clark (Chairman), Lily Sethares, Caleb Sonnabend, Caroline Neville, Lynne Poyant (Director of Community Services), Lt. Jean Challies (Police Officer), Sean Smith, Carrie Osborn, and Patti Machado (Leisure Services Director)
Absent: Matt Hersey (Vice-Chair), Jen Cullum (Town Council Liaison), Lianna Mitchell, Alliana DeBarros, Jen Ellis (Police Officer), Reid Mason, and Michael Hersey (Adult Advisor)

Lily Sethares made a motion to accept the minutes from the December 7, 2016 meeting. Carrie Osborn seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

Public Comment: None

Old Business:

A. Youth Commission Job Fair – No updates. Positive meeting at the intergenerational meeting at the Council on Aging today. From that meeting, Karen Gauthier suggested asking Sr. Citizens to lead a class to assist students in filling out job applications. Patti will call Warren. First choice date for the Fair is April 12th; second choice is April 11th. Brendan will confirm with Amy Harwood.

B. Lyndon P. Lorusso Foundation Funding Subcommittee - Sean Smith will submit a letter to Mark Thompson to request a sum of money from the Lorusso Foundation. Sean will contact Matt Hersey to review the letter and then e-mail the letter to Patti for her review.

C. Youth Commission Recruitment: F.Y. 2017 – Lily revised the letter – Brendan approved it. Lily will send a copy to Patti for her review. Patti will make copies and send to the schools and will include the Youth Commission pamphlet.

New Business:

A. Preparation For Superintendent Meg Mayo-Brown February Meeting –

Insight from today's meeting with Supt. Mayo-Brown: Brendan, Lily, Caroline and Caleb attended today's meeting and were a bit blindsided and unprepared by unexpected guests (Principal Clark, Dr. Gina Hurley, Jen Clark, and Maria Pierozzi) and in attendance to discuss the "One Love" video. The Youth Commission attendees felt ambushed.

Highlights:

a.) The guests in attendance shared their thoughts on this video:

1) Dr. Hurley asked if the Commission met with Independence House and MVP. Brendan told her they had and explained why the Commission felt that MVP was not ready and capable to take on a program comparable to the "One Love" presentation.

2) Jen Clark did not feel comfortable with the video promoting drinking, sex, and inappropriate words. The Commission feels strongly

that students are all aware of the inappropriate words and this is not a reason to negate the video.

3) Conversations amongst the guests drifted over the content of the video. The Commission defended the different views and reasons why the students need to see "real life" cases. The guests said other videos are offered in other school's curriculums. The Commission said they are aware of these videos and, again, feels strongly that these videos do not portray a strong enough message.

Caroline, who has worked tirelessly on bringing the "One Love" video into the school, conveyed her feelings about this meeting. She walked into the meeting feeling ambushed and confused. Caroline looked to Supt. Mayo-Brown for her thoughts on the video. The guests wanted the video to be watched at home with their children with follow up discussions – more so to keep the video out of the school. She felt the guests were conveying negative comments and did not bring forth any solutions.

Jean Challies presented documentation from different schools that support and use the "One Love" video. Jean is in full support of this video being accepted into BHS. In reviewing the documentation, Lynne suggested that the Commission refer Jen Clark to the contact people at these schools for their feedback.

The Commission will request to attend a meeting with Mark Ells and Supt. Mayo-Brown to bring forth the thoughts of the administrators and the Commission's defense of the "One Love" video.

Brendan will reach out to Mike Judge (School Committee member), share the video and express the Commission's thoughts. As a parent and citizen, he has a different stance. Also include Stephanie Ellis and Pat Murphy to review and ask for their support.

Brendan will forward to the guests at today's meeting the documentation provided by Jean in support of the Commissions take on allowing the video presentation be shown at BHS. Caroline will reach out to other schools to find out positive and negative feedback.

B. Youth Opiate Prevent Grant Update – The Commission extended their thanks and appreciation to Lynne for her time and dedication in preparing and submitting the grant application.

C. Youth Summit Budget Discussions – work in progress. Waiting for costs/expenses to come in.

D. Youth Summit General Items: Lily presented the final logo. Carrie Osborn made a motion to approve the logo with recommended revisions made by Amy Harwood. Sean Smith seconded. All is favor; motion passed.

E. Subcommittee Reports – will be covered at next month's meeting. General Items: Summit will be called the Barnstable Youth Summit. Patti will e-mail out "Save the Date". Chris Herren is booked. Peer leaders will be returning. Preparedness for HS is arranged. Calmer Choice and Gosnold anticipated.

F. Matters no reasonably anticipated by the Chair: Caleb will be attending the next School Committee meeting to bring up First Aid and CPR training for all staff at BUES. Lily made a motion for Caleb to speak on behalf of the Youth Commission at the next School Committee meeting. Carrie seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

Lily Sethares made a motion to adjourn. Sean Smith seconded the motion. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,