

**Town of Columbia
Meeting Minutes**

Youth Services Committee

Wednesday, September 11, 2019

5:30 p.m. Adella G. Urban Administrative Offices Conference Room

Attendance: Maureen Allen, Greg DeCarli, Alyssa Gwinnell, Dan Leavitt, Denise Morrell, Bill O'Brien, Melissa Petrone, Marc Volza, and Carol Wiggins.

Also present: Mark Walter

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - a. May 8, 2019 Special Meeting: unanimous approval
 - b. March 13, 2019 Regular Meeting: unanimous approval
3. AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS
4. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. November 13, 2019 YSC Meeting - Open discussion of youth services issues with community leaders and citizens. Proposed Topic: Suicide Prevention and Community Response to Suicide ("Postvention").
 - i. Tabled for the spring meeting
 - b. Other possible topics?
 - i. Homelessness in the community. AHM currently identifying it as a youth homelessness concern. Discussion on whether it is appropriate for this community as a topic.
 - ii. Suggested that it can be tied to hunger.
 - iii. Another topic suggestion is vaping.
 - iv. Meanness behavior responses.
 - c. Motion to have vaping as the topic at the November meeting by Dan Leavitt. Seconded by Carol Wiggins. Unanimous approval
 - i. Discussion: Have the presentation recorded and post. Agreed that Dan & Alyssa will work on this.
5. OLD BUSINESS
 - a. Discussion of May 8, 2019 presentation on marijuana legalization
 - i. Looking for powerpoint presentation materials. It was an excellent presentation.
 - b. Update from Andover Hebron Marlborough Youth and Family Services (AHM)

- i. New Director Tressa Giordano
 - ii. Gina Marie's fundraiser for AHM is Monday 9/16
 - iii. The fall auction and concert will be held at AHM on October 19
 - iv. We have a parent forum on underage drinking at AHM on 10/9
 - v. TASKS is looking for more youth members. Brendan Grimm is the contact at brendang@ahmyouth.org
 - vi. Current JB caseload is 5 teens
 - vii. Collaborations/programs for this school year: peer mentoring (32 as of today); leadership group; Power of Words: elementary session is on 10/22
- c. Update from Resident Trooper
- i. Acknowledgement of September 11th
- d. Update from Horace W. Porter School
- i. Wonderful start to the 2019-2020 school year. Open house is tomorrow from 5-7pm. Chronicle wrote a Welcome back article and was at the school today gathering information for the next article on PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports). Please acknowledge the passing of Megan VanDyke which occurred on Tuesday, September 3rd. She was a Columbia Senior who attended EO Smith.
- e. Update from Columbia Parks and Recreation
- i. After school program for
 - ii. Basketball sign ups have started
 - iii. Rec Park: Was just approved to have the road put in around the park. The basketball court will need to be moved and the softball field will be completed soon. Some new playground equipment is being ordered with sensory pieces.

6. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

- a. Two members are interested in joining the Youth services committee. Cheri has also been contacted by a youth who is interested in joining the committee.

7. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Motion to adjourn Marc Volza
- b. Seconded by Melissa Petrone
- c. Unanimous approval at 6:09pm