

TOWN OF COLUMBIA

Meeting Minutes

Youth Services Committee

Wednesday, January 8, 2020 - 5:30 p.m.

Adella G. Urban Administrative Offices Conference Room

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

Also in attendance: Cheri Rivard-Lentz

1. CALL TO ORDER

- Approval of minutes: Unanimous approval at 5:32pm

2. AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS

3. OLD BUSINESS

Discussion regarding November public forum on vaping.

- Chronicle coverage was great
- Other ways to publicize: Facebook, tweet, website, mailings, newspaper
- Bringing the high students and their high schools in as a proxy
- Surveying students at Porter what they may be interested in learning about
- Human trafficking: Susan knows people who can deliver this information for parents only or to parents and students.
 - It has happened in our community
 - Are there "softer" choices?
 - Healthy relationships?
- Suicide prevention topic (using other words)
- Suggestion: one Public Presentation and one community forum
- What are the major "topics" we want to focus on as the YSC and what are some of the preventions and positive peer actions we can offer for kids
- Mental Health topics such as coping with anxiety, what to do when your friends are

bringing you down, how do I feel good about myself? Managing depression.

- Discussion regarding future public forum(s).

Vote: April Presentation: Mental Health Topic plus QPR process 6:15pm. All in favor. Passed. Possible date April 22, 2019

4. **NEW BUSINESS**

- New Member: Susan Kristoff
- 2020 YSC Meeting Schedule shared
- Discussion of 2020 YSC goals
 - Mission of YSC:
 - Mobilize community resources to solve youth problems
 - Strengthen existing youth resources and develop new ones; and
 - Promote positive programs to divert children and youth from the criminal justice system.

Update from Andover Hebron Marlborough Youth and Family Services (AHM): None

Update from Resident Trooper: None

Update from Horace W. Porter School

- High School Information Night for 8th graders
- 3-hour delay schedule implemented
- "Pieces of Peace" framed art walking field trip for all students at Yeoman's all

Update from Columbia Parks and Recreation

- After School hangout for Porter students on half day
- Youth basketball going well and many signed up

5. **COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

- Rebecca was on TV with Senator Blumenthal regarding grants for Opioids education.

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

- Motion to adjourn
- 6:27 Bill. Carol second. Passed.