

**Minutes of
Youth Services Committee Meeting
March 14, 2018**

Members Present: Carol Wiggins, Maureen Allen, Rebecca Allen, Greg DeCarli, Dan Leavitt, Bill O'Brien, Melissa Petrone, Denise Morrell, Alyssa Gwinnell and Mark Volza.

Also Present: Michelle Hamilton, AHM

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the January 10, 2018 meeting were unanimously approved without revisions.

3. AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS

None.

4. NEW BUSINESS

Future "Gambling Awareness" Event

A future presentation on videogaming and early gambling was discussed. In an effort to schedule this event at a more convenient time to improve attendance, it was agreed that the committee would aim at holding it at Horace W. Porter School's open house on September 13th at 7:00 p.m.

May 9, 2018 YSC Meeting- Open discussion of youth services issues with community leaders and citizens.

Topic? Guest(s)?

It was agreed that the May 9th meeting would specifically related to videogames and early gambling. It was also agreed that a speaker on video gaming would be invited and that the YSC would seek input from residents and community leaders on both the content and promotion of the event.

5. OLD BUSINESS

Update from Andover Hebron Marlborough Youth and Family Services (AHM)

Michelle Hamilton reported on the "Power of Words" presentation held in January. She also discussed a "Smart Recovery" grant that will assist teens, age 16-18, who are in need of substance abuse recovery as well as the family and friends support group. She reported that there were two new referrals from Columbia to the Juvenile Review Board. She discussed the fact that AHM was co-hosting a "Nature and Adventure Day" during the Hebron Maple Festival on March 17th. Michelle also discussed the "Change the Script" public awareness campaign to help communities deal with the prescription drug and opioids misuse crisis.

Update from Resident Trooper

Greg reported that parents have reached out about the Parkland, FL shootings and school safety. He was contacted by the town to do a presentation about what they can look for and how to be proactive. He also reported that he visits the school at least once a week.

Update from Horace W. Porter School

Alyssa discussed and distributed information regarding Adverse Childhood Experiences ("ACEs"). She discussed the fact that childhood experiences, both positive and negative, have a tremendous impact on future violence victimization and perpetration, and lifelong health and opportunity. She reported that ACEs has been a topic for professional development at Porter School.

Update from Columbia Parks and Recreation

Marc reported that youth basketball has just finished and that Parks and Recreation is getting ready for April camp and then summer activities.

6. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

None.

7. ADJOURNMENT

A Motion to Adjourn was made at 6:20 and approved unanimously.