

TOWN OF COLUMBIA
Special Meeting Agenda
Youth Services Committee

Wednesday, November 14, 2018 - 6:00 p.m.

Adella G. Urban Administrative Offices Conference Room

Attendance: William O'Brien, Alyssa Gwinnell, Carol Wiggins, Marc Volza,
Maureen Allen, Rebecca Allen, Trooper Greg DeCarli, Denise Morrell

Absent: Dan Leavitt, Melissa Petrone

Audience: Michelle Hamilton, Kathy Tolsdorf, Judy Ortiz, Dick Szegda, Mark
Walter, Barbara Wilson

1. CALL TO ORDER

- Called to Order 6:01pm by William O'Brien

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2018 MEETING

- Motion to approve the September 12, 2018 minutes at 6:02pm by
Maureen Allen, seconded by Carol Wiggins. Passed unanimously.

3. NEW BUSINESS

Informal discussion of youth services issues with community leaders and
citizens.

Szegda: Goal of youth services is meant to be a diversion from juvenile
court. After 10plus years, amazed at the benefits of Juvenile Review board
(JRB). Students leave with more confidence and strategies for making better
decisions. Parents are given tools to work with difficult situations. JRB
referrals can be made through police or the school; however, through the
school the parent needs to approve. There are various interventions at the
school to assist students and families. AHM is in the school. The resource
officer and the school Principal are in communication. Positive youth
development and preventative services for younger kids.

Intervention versus prevention. There are many more services and
intervention. Columbia is doing well with prevention. Most recently had a
good workshop: Peace at Home: 16 Columbia parents came. There are 40
different topics and they are available online. And this service is free.

Article shared that Columbia continues with AHM

Cheri Rivard-Lentz is excellent and works well with students.

Marc Volza recently started after school club for students who need a place to go on early dismissal or no school days.

AHM has a mental health fund. How can Columbia help to fundraise for this cause.

Parents talk workshop regarding vaping through AHM on November 28th.

Screenagers is being shown on November 29th of parents and teens at RHAM at 6pm.

Look to work more closely with high schools in the prevention stage.

4. ADJOURNMENT

- Motion to adjourn at 7:06 by Maureen Allen:
 - Seconded: Carol Wiggins
 - Passed Unanimously