

Youth, Family and Human Services Commission Meeting
Regular Meeting - Youth Center, East Lyme Community Center
February 8th, 2024, 6:00 pm

Present:

D. Hull - Chairman
J. Brush -Vice Chairman
J. Shelburn
A. Dagle
V. Brush

Absent: M. Chiappone and P. Larkin

Also present: Ex-Officio, Selectman C. Carlson
Youth and Family Services Director, S. Firmin
Community member- L. McGowan

Call to Order:

Chairman D. Hull called the February 8th, 2024, regular meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

Public Delegation:

No members of the public were present.

Minutes:

Motion - J. Shelburn moved to approve the January 2024 meeting minutes as submitted, seconded by A. Dagle.

Approved unanimously.

Director's Report:

- a) Director S. Firmin reported on the "Screenagers" program that was presented at the East Lyme High School in the auditorium at 6:00 pm. The program had less attendance than anticipated but the question-and-answer session at the conclusion of the program with the youth was very well done and received.
- b) S. Firmin reported the intern from SCSU started on January 22nd, 2024. She is from East Lyme and will be completing 10 hours of service per week and has started on a couple of projects already.
- c) Kids Night at the community center on Friday, February 2nd, 2024, was a success with all in attendance. The kids reported having a great time and parents are inquiring when the next one will be. S. Firmin stated that they will provide this service once a month to start and probably limit the next group to around twenty kids.

Caullin M. McGowan
TOWN CLERK

2024 FEB 12 PM 12:59

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
EAST LYME, CT

- d) The proposed talent show for grades 6 through 12 at East Lyme High School on February 9th, 2024, was postponed due to the lack of signups for the event. There was a discussion about how to improve turnout and advertising.
- e) The Chris Herren presentation will be done at the East Lyme High School February 28th, 2024.
- f) There will be a community QPR training on March 25th, 2024, at the community center.

Ex-Officious Report:

Selectman C. Carlson reported on the selectmen's activities and briefed the commission on several items they had discussed at their meeting to include but not limited to short term rentals, grant updates for the town, fishing dock lease, an inter local agreement ELPD has with surrounding towns.

Committee Report:

No committees formed at this time.

Student Report:

V. Brush, nothing new to report currently.

Communications:

No communications to report.

Unfinished Business:

- a) All commission members were given a copy of the first selectman's proposed general fund budget for fiscal year 2024/25 for the Youth, Family and Human Services Department. There was a great deal of conversation about the selectman's proposed budget as it was not in line with the department proposal at the November board of selectmen's meeting when this department was formed. There appear to be budget cuts of approximately \$45,000 from the original proposal for this department. It was discussed and agreed-upon by all commission members to address the board of selectmen about the importance of maintaining the original proposed budget.
- b) It was also noted that the opioid settlement money of \$20,000 was a line item in the proposed budget. There were questions about the amount of settlement money the town has already received and what that money was allocated for. That is to be discussed with the town's financial manager.
- c) All commission members were encouraged to attend the next budget meeting with the selectmen on February 21st, 2024, at 5:00 PM.

New Business:

Department renovations - The commission was given a tour of the youth center and the ongoing construction to reconfigure the area to be used for The Youth, Family and Human Services Department.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn (Shelburn/J. Brush) at 6:57 pm.

Vote: Approved unanimously.