



Montville Youth Advisory Board

Minutes

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May 11, 2023

6:00 p.m.

Montville Community Center

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Chairman: Daniel Dunn, Tim Shanahan, Brianne Messer, Susan Rickards, Sheelagh Lapinski, Officer Karen Aleshire, Vouise Fonville, Loretta Drain

Also Present: MYSB Director Barbara Lockhart, Town Council Liaison Councilman Robert Yuchniuk and MYSB Administrative Assistant Dianne Peltier

Absent: Dan Boisvert, William Carlos, Youth Liaisons Addie Concascia & Brendan Duhamel

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

I. Chairman's Report (Dan Dunn)

- Communications/Correspondence
 - Dan asked if everyone is receiving texts/emails – board likes the text messaging option better. Please respond if unable to attend ASAP to see if we have a quorum
 - Minutes accepted
- Other Business to Report

II. Town Council Liaison Update (Robert Yuchniuk)

- Budget is being reviewed and not sure about cuts. Barbara mentioned mental health services were initially cut but funds have been put back into the counseling line item

III. New Business

- Joe Brummer Training
 - MYSB is sponsoring a Trauma Training series for all school district personnel (all staff to include lunch staff, office staff and possibly bus drivers), using grant money. Dan asked what is the focus? De-escalation of self & kids
- Opioid Funding Expenditures Plan
 - Big Pharma settlement with government over opioids – Montville to receive money for next 18 years. It will be used for the following:
 - Extend Project Courage to 3 days (already in place)
 - Resource cards with local AA, NA meetings to hand out to schools, fire, police (already in place)
 - Transportation vouchers

- YSB Day at the Capitol
 - MYSB brought 4 kids to the Capitol to interact with the legislative panel – theme of the day was “You cannot do what you cannot envision”, 100 kids from all over the state attended, a few topics of discussion were mental health and school safety. The kids were so engaged and not shy about what is important to them
- Fun Fridays in May
 - Cinco De Mayo – Chile’s donated chips and salsa
 - Penny Drive Play Day – wrapping up our penny drive with a blow-up obstacle course, pizza (donated by Moravela’s), popcorn
 - DJ – kickoff to summer

IV. Old Business

- MYSB Van
 - Working out great! Kids from Mohegan School arrive an hour earlier to the ASP
- Free Tablet
 - 43 tables were distributed
- Blood Drive
 - 23 pints of blood collected
- Podcast
 - Josie and Mike English did a great job – check it out on our FB page, new episodes coming
- MHS Community Conversation – Internet Safety & Vaping
 - Not well attended but if we can educate a handful of parents then it’s a success, parents were so surprised at some of the things they learned from Officer Karen Aleshire, Officer Kirsten Todd, Principal Rob Alves and Vice-Principal Ken Daniewicz

V. YAC (Youth Action Council) (Brendan Duhamel Report)

- Mental Health
 - Mental Health bags were put together by YAC which were given to counselors at all of the schools, the bags contained stress balls, tea, cups, info, etc
 - Billboard on Maple Ave going up on June 3rd – “Your mental health doesn’t take a summer vacation”
- Strive for 85 Vaping Campaign
 - Information is everywhere – Barbara saw someone at the post office scanning the QR code (yay!)
- Community Center Beautification
 - Flowers are planted and benches have been painted but not quite completed

VI. Good & Welfare

- No report

VII. JRB Update (Cases, Dispositions, Referrals)

- Cases
 - Case load has increased a lot since changes were made at the JJ court – Predict assessment is used, high risk court keeps otherwise referred back to JRB

VIII. Other Business

- Grants (State & Local)
 - JRB fully funded and more in the Enhancement Grant (\$47,000)
- Budgets (State & Local)
 - No cuts
- Gizmo Book – Pawesome Guide to Mental Health
 - June 3rd 10:30 am at the Raymond Library partnering with Montville Youth Services and SERAC for a presentation geared towards K-5 students who are struggling with mental health. Gizmo is a therapy dog in the book, special guest Riot, the therapy dog. Activities, refreshments and free copies of the book will be available

X. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Tim 1st - Susan 2nd
Meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

XI. Next Meeting

Thursday, June 8, 2023 – 6:00pm Montville Community Center

Submitted by Dianne Peltier, Administrative Assistant MYSB