



Montville Youth Advisory Board

Minutes

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March 14, 2024

6:00 p.m.

Fair Oaks

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Chairman: Daniel Dunn, Brianne Messer, Officer Karen Aleshire, Tim Shanahan, Susan Rickards, Dan Boisvert, William Carlos, Loretta Drain

Also Present: MYSB Director Barbara Lockhart, Town Council Liaison Councilman Nick Sabilia, Youth Liaisons Josie English and Adam Sheridan, MYSB Administrative Assistant Dianne Peltier, Micah Messer, Mayor Lenny Bunnell

Absent: Vouise Fonville

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

I. Chairman's Report (Dan Dunn)

- Communications/Correspondence
 - Dan called the meeting to order and welcomed and congratulated Mayor Bunnell and Nick Sabilia
 - Moving forward asking all to text whether they are coming to the meeting or not
- Other Business to Report
 - Dan stressed the importance of next month's meeting to have a quorum due to elections being placed for Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary

II. Town Council Liaison Update (Nick Sabilia)

- Introduced himself – works at the high school as a tutor, umpire for many years and has a lot of experience with youth. Excited to be on the Board and will advocate for the department and the importance of Youth Services

III. New Business

- Penny Drive
 - Kicked off in January with our Winter Wonderland
 - Excited about the project and hopefully what it is will be revealed by the end of this month
- Blood Drive
 - April 8th – at Fair Oaks (pre-register or walk in is available), every bit helps!

- Memory Quilt
 - The unveiling of the Montville Memory Quilt which is dedicated to those we've lost due to addiction related illness was on March 1, 2024
 - Thank you to all that attended – Mayor Lenny Bunnell, State Representatives Holly Cheeseman and Kathleen McCarty, Town Council members May and Jaskiewicz, Montville Chief of Police Bill Blanchette, Lt. Radford, Officer Aleshire, NLPD Officer Nocito and Comfort Canine Traveler, Oakdale Fire Chief Messer, Our MYAB members Dan Dunn and Brie Messer, prevention partner SERAC, our staff and community members who created squares in memory of their family members and friends. Also, a big thank you to Ashley Dowden of Dearly Dowden Designs for her amazing quilting talent!

- AED
 - Big “Thank you” to Chief Micah Messer and Oakdale Fire for donating a new AED

- March Madness
 - Four different events which include foul shots, knockout, foosball and pool
 - Learning sportsmanship and encouraging younger participants

- Shamrock Shakes
 - March 15th – always a big hit with the kids, staff, parents and especially Dan and Dan!

- Healthy Relationships
 - March 7th – MYSB set up a table at the high school with information about healthy relationships whether it's friendship, student/teacher, parent/child, boyfriend/girlfriend, etc. Safe Futures were also present with info

- SERAC
 - Narcan/QPR trainings – lots of options, zoom or can set up in person, hybrid, etc

- Chris Herren
 - NBA star who struggled with addiction who has been sober since 1988
 - Presenting to high school and middle school (grades 7 & 8 only) on March 27th
 - Funded by Federal Opioid Funds

- Ben Cort
 - Legalization of Marijuana – March 20th 7:00 pm via zoom, adults only, call MYSB for more info and QR code

IV. Old Business

- ASP Updates
 - Shout out to MYSB staff, behaviors are significant
 - Multiple issues, so much more than babysitting – important for the community to know
 - Participants are highly energetic which is wonderful – lots of basketball, volleyball, art on Fridays, homework help

- New hire Michelle W. – her experience makes her the perfect fit!
- Summer Center – registration is May 13th, free breakfast and lunch

- Mobile Van

- Using Federal Opioid Funds
- 2 RNs manage the van – blood pressure, clean needle exchange, access to resources, tick test, Covid and flu vaccines, etc – multiple tests and resources available
- Confidential and free

V. YAC (Youth Action Council) (Adam Sheridan & Josie English)

- Athlete Mental Health Survey

- 79% feel pressure to succeed
- 46% feel comfortable talking to coach about mental health
- 60% feel comfortable talking to teammates about mental health
- 4% think vaping is okay despite it being illegal
- 38% of student athletes use energy drinks to “push through”

- Social Media Survey 6th & 7th Grade

- About ½ of the 6th and 7th graders completed the survey
- Not sure how truthful they were on answering
- Once completed – YAC will meet to discuss World Cafes

- Energy Drinks

- Social media and Stall Street Journal will highlight the dangers of energy drinks and participating in sports
- We will be setting a table up in cafeteria in April

- YAC About it Blog

- Different topics around mental health, opioids, marijuana and ending the stigma

VI. Good & Welfare

- Ryan Marshall Foundation

- Well respected athlete from Waterford who passed away, family approached us to donate \$1,500 to use toward equipment, registration fees, etc. for an athlete
- Barb reached out to Athletic Director, Parks and Rec Director, Principals and identified a family who would benefit from this. They were so incredibly grateful, excited to have new equipment for baseball and Lacrosse

VII. JRB Update (Cases, Dispositions, Referrals)

- Cases

- Few reviews and 5 new referrals
- 95% success, Board has the discretion of hearing a kid for a second time
- JRB has more resources sometimes and no better feeling than seeing the turnaround in a kid, JRB is restorative – here to help not punish (compassion and accountability)

VIII. Other Business

- Grants (State & Local)

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- Budgets (State & Local)

- Asking for more money and asking for Board's help

X. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Tim S. 1st - Susan 2nd

Meeting was adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

XI. Next Meeting

- Thursday, April 11, 2024 – 6:00pm Montville Community Center

Submitted by Dianne Peltier, Administrative Assistant MYSB