



Montville Youth Advisory Board

Minutes

836 Old Colchester Road

Oakdale, CT 06382

Office (860) 848-7724

Fax (860) 848-4058

www.montvilleyouth.org

**Special Meeting
November 18, 2021
6:00 p.m.**

Montville Community Center

Members Present: Chairman: Daniel Dunn, Tim Shanahan, Dan Boisvert, Susan Rickards, Officer Karen Aleshire

Also Present: MYSB Director Barbara Lockhart, Liaison Councilman Robert Yuchniuk, Youth Liaison Brendan Duhamel & Addie Concascia, Dianne Peltier (MYSB Administrative Assistant)

Absent: William Carlos, Vouise Fonville, Sheelagh Lapinski, Brianne Messer, Loretta Drain

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m.

I. Chairman's Report

- Communications/Correspondence
 - Dan welcomed Councilman Yuchniuk into the group, shared meeting dates
 - Barb gave an overview of the mandated state statutes for Youth Services Bureaus
- Other Business to Report
 - Dan touched on the need for a van especially for inclement weather to transport kids from Tyl Middle School to the Community Center

II. Town Council Liaison Update (Robert Yuchniuk)

- Councilman Yuckniuk newly appointed – no report

III. New Business

- Van Request
 - Conversation continued about the need for the van as stated above and an email was sent to the Public Works Director. Councilman Yuckniuk will follow up
- Social & Emotional Learning (SEL) Groups
 - Barb and Assistant Superintendent Dianne Vumback met and talked about the opportunity of bringing students, police and Safe Futures together to learn about the importance of having respectful conversations
- Stocking Drive
 - Our Stocking Drive continues – we are asking for \$5 gift cards to places like Walmart, 5 Below, Dunkin' etc. to help supplement the Toy Drive for Social Services. One community member already dropped off 60 cards! Our goal is usually 200 but we are hoping to fill 250 this year

IV. Old Business

- ASP 2021-2022
 - New kids enrolling weekly – almost 40 kids to date
- Pod Cast Update
 - Communications with Grace – Grace is on leave but will be picking back up shortly. She has already interviewed police, LT Governor, SERAC, Youth Services, principals, etc.
- ARP Funds for MYSB/MCC
 - \$5,000 was approved for tutoring center at the Community Center
- QPR & NARCAN Training
 - 27 individuals were trained in October (18 were school personnel). All school personnel should be trained and discussion arose as to why NARCAN is not allowed in school. Tim Shanahan (newly appointed BOE member) will be checking in with Superintendent to find out why
- Drug Take Back Day
 - Montville PD & Troop E average around 45lbs a month!
- Lights on After School
 - Huge success! Kids had a ball – inflatable, apple cider, caramel apples, DJ
- Basket Raffle
 - In Lieu of our Pancake Breakfast – kickoff was on Election Day through November 19. Drawing to be held on Monday, November 22, 2021 - \$1,300 so far!

V. YAC (Youth Action Council)

- Working on a mental health survey, about 10 questions for MHS and Tyl, questions based on how students feel, do they feel supported, do they feel connected – will be used in mental health campaign
- Would like to reach out to Mr. Alves to find a way where student body can feel more connected to their teachers and administration, issues with student not addressed
- Students feel they have no one to talk to if having a rough day, underclassman not treated as fairly as upperclassman
- Looking to create more social media content and resource cards where students can access mental health services in school and community
- Next edition of the Stall Street Journal will be out after Thanksgiving break with strong emphasis on asking for help, coping skills and on overall positive tone
- QPR training was great – 9 YAC participants were trained
- 3 big campaigns we will be working on – Mental Health, Marijuana and alcohol misuse (which all leads back to mental health – which is YAC's main focus)
- Barb added – mood meter, adults need to react differently, such a disconnect among peers as well – find a way to bridge gaps between different types of students

VI. Good & Welfare

- Letters to Santa is up and running – letters can be dropped off at the Public Safety Building

VII. JRB Update (Cases, Dispositions, Referrals) – looking to rename in the future

- Cases
 - Fighting, marijuana, vandalism are what we are seeing
 - Diversion rate in the 90% range
- Restorative Practice Trainings 2021 Update
 - No more trainings scheduled for this year
- Truancy Cases Update
 - Court does not take truancy cases, JRB will
- Renaming JRB
 - Looking to change the name to Youth Diversion Team or Panel

VIII. Other Business

- Grants (State & Local)
 - SOR grant – billboards and drug take back day
 - YouthRecoveryCT – Mental Health grant asking for \$10,000
- Budgets (State & Local)
 - Budget due earlier and earlier – due in November, Barb asking to increase certain line items

X. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:15

XI. Next Meeting

December 10, 2021 – Looking into Uncasville Diner for holiday party
Next official meeting March 10, 2021

Submitted by Dianne Peltier, Administrative Assistant MYSB