

Youth Services Advisory Board

Regular Meeting
Tuesday, September 24th, 2024
4:30 PM

Youth & Family Services
265 Main Street
Portland, CT 06480

The Town of Portland will provide reasonable accommodations to assist those with special needs to attend and participate in public meetings. Please contact the Youth Services office at (860) 342-6758 at least 48 hours in advance to discuss your special needs.

We will be adhering to the town guidance regarding wearing masks, social distancing and other mitigation practices

AGENDA

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:34 by Margaret Stewart

2. Roll Call

Present: Michelle Donahue, Margaret Stewart, Sarah Donahue, Meg Scata

Absent: Anne Whalen, Erin Livensparger (alternate)

Others: Courtney Fitzkee, Ryan Curley

3. Approve Agenda

Meg made a motion to accept the agenda, Sarah seconded, vote approved

4. Approve Minutes

Minutes of the last meeting of the Youth Services Advisory Board were read and approved. Meg made a motion to approve the minutes from May 16, 2024, Margaret seconded; vote approved unanimously.

5. Old Business:

The group discussed how the summer kick-off event went that happened on Thursday, June 27th. Group agreed the event went well but wanted to make sure we took note of anything we need to be on top of for next year. It was decided that there needs to be more garbage's and a recycling bin. The face painting line needs to be managed with two volunteers. It would be ideal to have another activity happening like a magician for an hour to offset some of the lines. Lawn games from library should be signed out earlier too. A brochure complete with an overview of all the departments services and programs provided as a hand out for attendees. It would be great to find a way to better engage volunteers from the high school and middle school to manage the event too. Though we recognize it's a hard time of year for engagement from them since it's the beginning of Summer.

6. New Business:

Courtney described the programs that are in process, coming up or that just happened. This includes drop in craft, little hikers and other positive youth development activities. The Internet Safety speaker at BIS on the evening of September 19th was very well received by the parents. LGBTQ+ Support groups have started again for the school year. Youth Services and the library will no longer be able to support the programs financially due to lack of department funds but will continue to support this program in other ways. Pumpkin painting program

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will be happening on town green on September 28th after the Come on Over 5k with the library. The Tree Lighting and parade will be on Saturday, December 7th and the rain date is Sunday, December 8th.

7. Public Comments

No public comments

8. Board Member Comments

No board member comments

9. Next Meeting/Adjourn Meeting

Next Meeting: TBA when Courtney returns from maternity leave.

Margaret made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Michelle; vote approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Courtney Fitzkee, Youth & Family Services Administrator

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