

## **Commission for Children and Youth Regular Meeting Minutes**

Monday, June 15th, 2020

5:30 PM – 6:30 PM

Virtual Google Meet

### Commissioners Present

Shara Kolodney, Chair  
Bridget Angus  
Denise Harvey  
Jane Hoeffner  
Hilary Misiano  
Knox Watson

### Commissioners Absent

Michelle Albright  
Denese Marshall  
Michelle Tivey

### Other Attendees

Laura Cleary, Youth Services Director  
Charlene Monn, Program Director  
Emma Spaulding, WHS At Large Student Representative

#### 1. Call to Order

Shara Kolodney called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm.

#### 2. Approval of minutes

**Motion:** *Move to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on May 18, 2020. Motion by Hilary Misiano, second by Shara Kolodney (Vote: 6-0; For - Angus, Harvey, Hoeffner, Kolodney, Misiano, Watson).*

#### 3. Reports:

- Social Services (Laura): Laura made this report based on a note from Allison - delivering food to seniors; meeting with area directors who are seeing similar trends; no summer school lunch program.
- Summer programs update (Charlene): Offering 19 programs virtually this summer, such as theatre, music, business academy, yoga, creative writing, art. Registration fairly light as of now.

- WYS update (Laura): Coalition hasn't met last two time; will do summer newsletter and reach out about doing a Coalition meeting soon or at least before the start of the first semester. Will review JRB contract; didn't meet the number of cases specified in the contract; leaning towards lowering number of cases and thus cost. In talks about Town Hall offices reopening, but probably wouldn't occur until August. Will send email to Youth Commission with some questions for the Commission to consider.
- Other reports as needed (Shara): had long conversation with Margie from ADL today; came up with different ideas, which Shara needs to run through with the committee that has been working on the Strengthening the Bonds of the Community program; Margie suggested discussing with the schools how to move beyond book and curricular changes and surveying recent graduates about whether they felt prepared for the diversity at their colleges after they left Weston. Jane Hoeffner asked about making the Youth Commission more diverse. There are Charter limitations on the number of members but can consider inviting other people to the meetings, reaching out to the RTC and DTC recruitment chairs and forming a student advisory committee. Knox Watson noted that student government members talked to Lisa Wolak about a program that used to exist where students meet at a neutral place to discuss issues. Emma Spaulding noted that the younger generation may not understand what last weekend's rally meant. Margie mentioned to Shara that some municipalities have organized a separate commission to deal with human rights issues. Laura reported that Chris Spaulding is having discussions about forming such a group. Shara has spoken with Harold Bailey, who teaches multiculturalism in Westport, and asked him to come to Weston; he needs Chris Spaulding's approval.

4. Thank you and congratulations to Bridget!: Commission members thanked Bridget Angus for her service on the Commission and wished her well at college.

5. Discussion of Youth Commission Student Member to Replace Bridget: Emma Spaulding will be moving into Bridget's spot on the Commission pending appointment by the Board of Selectmen.

6. Responding to current events discussion: See above.

7. For the good of the order

Discussion re: how to arrange for WHS students to get more volunteer hours.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:18 pm. Motion by Knox Watson. Second by Bridget Angus. Vote 6-0 (For: Angus, Harvey, Hoeffner, Kolodney, Misiano, Watson).

Respectfully submitted,  
Denise Harvey, Secretary