**Commission for Children and Youth**

**Regular Meeting Minutes**

**Monday, January 25, 2021, 5:30pm**

**Via Zoom**

Commissioners Present

Shara Kolodney, Chair

Gillian Donovan

Denise Harvey

Jane Hoeffner

Denese Marshall

Hilary Misiano

Emma Spaulding

Knox Watson

Commissioner Absent

Michelle Tivey

Other Attendees

Laura Cleary, Youth Services Director

Charlene Monn, Youth Services Program Coordinator

1. Call to Order: D. Harvey called the meeting to order at 5:33pm.
2. Approval of December minutes: D. Harvey made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 21, 2020 regular meeting. The motion was seconded by S. Kolodney. The vote was 5-0-3 (Yes: Kolodney, Donovan, Harvey, Hoeffner, Spaulding; Abstain: Marshall, Misiano, Watson).
3. Election of Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary: K. Watson made a motion to reelect S. Kolodney as Chair and elect H. Misiano as Vice Chair of the Commission. The motion was seconded by J. Hoeffner and unanimously approved. L. Cleary volunteered to act as Secretary of the Commission, commencing with the February meeting.
4. Reports:

* Social Services (A. Lisbon): A. Lisbon was unable to attend, but L. Cleary noted that she is working with A. Lisbon on having a postvention crisis response plan; meeting with schools and SROs on February 3. Discussion ensued.
* WOW Winter Update (C. Monn): Started 4th week of winter session; 10 programs with 63 students in aggregate; reintroduce some winter programs in February; expect to continue virtual programs in the spring.
* WYS update (L. Cleary): Encouraged sharing of information about WYS programs to boost participation. Light mentoring model of teenagers with WIS students – currently have 8 WHS students approved but application window is still open. Webinar tomorrow on healthy connections for parents with teens that WYS is co-sponsoring with Wilton.
* Student updates: Turning Point CT is a teen mental health organization which is under the umbrella of Positive Directions; E. Spaulding, L. Cleary and Turning Point contact will be meeting to see what’s involved for E. Spaulding to be a student liaison. K. Watson raised difficulty of having prom and graduation in light of Covid; noted lots of community service projects going on. Discussion ensued about process for appointing a new student commissioner once K. Watson graduates from WHS.
* School/community liaisons: D. Harvey reported on a conversation she had with a member of the BOE who noted the ongoing concern re: creating emotional connections with students who are studying remotely and the issue of increasing screen time for social activities above what is needed for academics.

1. TEAM Weston update: S. Kolodney reported on the activities TEAM has engaged in recently. Also focused on diversity in hiring. Now have IRS letter for 501(c)(3) status.
2. Other member updates: L. Cleary and D. Harvey reported on the Weston Coalition meeting that took place earlier today.
3. New ideas/discussion: Nothing raised.
4. For the good of the order: Nothing raised.
5. Adjournment: D. Harvey made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:48pm. The motion was seconded by H. Misiano and unanimously approved.