**Commission for Children and Youth**

**Regular Meeting Minutes**

**Monday, May 17, 2021, 5:30 pm**

**Via Zoom**

Commissioners Present

Shara Kolodney

Gillian Donovan

Denise Harvey

Jane Hoeffner

Emma Spaulding

Knox Watson

Commissioner Absent

Denese Marshall

Michele Tivey

Hilary Misiano

Other Attendees

Laura Cleary, Youth Services Director

Charlene Monn, Youth Services Program Coordinator

1. Call to Order: Meeting called to order 5:33 pm
2. Approval of April minutes: Unable to approve minutes- no quorum. Defer to June meeting.
3. Reports:
* WOW Summer: WPS registration- extended # of students for youth theater camp, increased to 35 students. Summer Academy for 1-8 grade, math and reading, through WPS closing registration -74 kids. WYS is not involved in these programs but we do the registration and paperwork for WPS. Virtual program sign up is low. Promoting via PTO and FB/ Instructors doing videos to promote their classes.
* WYS Report (L. Cleary) Started to shift a part of my hours to Social Services. Temporary and will need to be evaluated. For Mental health month, were having a Wilton/Weston webinar with Dr. Gerber from Silver Hill Hospital re: youth mental health as we navigate the new normal.
* School liaisons:
	+ Gillian Donovan: HES seems to be going well in person, consistency for students and families. Events held but different version, ex: field day with no parents. VDL kids are mostly back om the classroom.
* Student updates:
	+ Knox: Graduation, current plan is to have graduation on football field and limit participants. Just had Sr. Prom, no Juniors. Spirit week this week. SGA planning many things for seniors. AP exams finishing up. No finals this year. “overall mood is very positive.” Question from Denise H. re: tensions between adults in Weston on social media- is this affecting student body. Knox feels not affecting students at this time. Re: Lachat- “students love it.”
1. Other member updates:
	* Discussion: Gillian Donovan: Easier to get into fights on social media, reflecting broader national discussions but the way it’s being talked about not the best. Denise Harvey- is there a space for students to engage in civil community conversations. Especially as we approach local elections.
2. New ideas/discussion: Nothing raised.
3. For the good of the order: Nothing raised.
4. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned

Next meeting: possible in person outdoor meeting- tentative June 21