

Somers Youth Services Advisory Board Minutes-DRAFT

February 15, 2023 @ 4:30pm

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Allison Maynard at 4:33.

Members Present: Allison Maynard, Colleen Meier, Joe Radziewicz, Aiden Matthews, Craig Jones, Ed DePeau, Renata Bowers.

Absent: Cadence Bidwell, Brian Langan, Taylor Setzler

- Financials
 - We have about \$12,000 for YSB funds to carry us through until June 30
 - Request has been made for YS Coordinator position be funded for full time
- Transition Plan
 - Allison's last day is Feb. 16
 - Matthew Cox has been hired and begins on Feb. 16
 - Biggest concern is the handling of the Drug Free Communities program, making sure all activities and reportings are carried out as needed.
- DFC Survey Results
 - All students in grades 7-12 took a survey on youth lifestyles, substance use, mental health, related risk and protective factors. There was a 90% participation rate.
 - Results of survey have been compiled and published and shared with top community youth leaders
 - This survey needs to be conducted at least every 2 years
- CADCA
 - Aiden attended CADCA Conference, found that workshops were very informative
 - Most successful programs seem to be youth-driven
 - Excited to implement some of what was taught/shared
- Youth Leadership Council
 - Project IMO coming to Somers to do assemblies with youth council members, leading adventure-based team-building. Three sessions in March and April.
 - This council (made up of 7th-10th-graders) has met three times already. Extremely positive, council members are very engaged and desire to make a difference.
 - Hope is to have council members attend CADCA in the future, working alongside other youth leaders.
 - Meet every other Thursday night.
 - Mission statement has been created, and council members each chose which sub-committee they'd like to be part of.
- Spring/Summer Programming
 - Continuing to offer Girls on the Run this year – 4th season – run by Aiden and Taylor. Only elementary students. No interest among middle school girls.
 - No one signed up for middle school girls' Voices program this time around.
 - Will run Youth Adventure again – hopefully including HS students.
 - Planning to offer Safe Sitter and Safe at Home again this year.

Meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Allison Maynard at 5:26.