

Commission for Children & Youth
Minutes from the June 1, 2009 planning meeting

In attendance: Commission members: Nancy McCormick, Dan Doak, Lynn Phillips, Ellen Weyrauch, Carl Filsinger, Dawn Egan, Jennifer Gremmel Hunt, Conor Russo; Staff: Charlene Monn, Kristin Ferrara; Guests: Charlene Hillman

Nancy called the meeting to order at 5:45 pm and welcomed Jeff Drobner who may be interested in joining the commission as the mental health expert required by our by-laws. He would replace Charles Morgan. Jeff told a little bit about his background and his interest in working with the commission.

The minutes of the May meeting were not reviewed at this time but will be reviewed in September.

Charlene presented her office report. She talked about the Summer Camps and enrollment figures to date.

Kristin presented her office report. She talked about Top Driver. A suggestion was made that a notice go out in the PTO Blast to alert parents to the summer session. She also talked about online enrollment and possibly getting the Parks & Recreation department interested in this also. This will be followed up on this summer.

Nancy introduced planning items.

There was a policy reading on the WOW Snack Policy by Lynn Phillips. After the reading – “Children attending WOW programs may bring a small nut-free snack to be eaten before the program begins. Keeping the snacks nut free helps ensure the safety and health of all children in the program. After finishing snacks, all children will be asked to wash hands before the program starts.” – there was a motion made by Lynn and seconded by Dawn Egan to accept the policy. Carl abstained, all other members voted for so the motion passed. This wording will appear in all enrollment literature for WOW programs in the future.

Kristin spoke about Kids in Crisis. Once a new counselor is hired, her/his time will be split between the middle and high schools. There was also talk about program development. Kristin will contact Patti Falber to discuss further.

Kristin would like to initiate a first responder program to coordinate all of the different departments (as relates to youth) in the town of Weston.

It was decided that a Youth Services column in the Forum bi-weekly would be an asset.

Kristin spoke about the creation of an Underage Drinking Task Force similar to the Wilton model, hopefully including some kids from the middle school. This would not replace the ADAP youth program, but be a town sponsored program.

A mother/daughter self image program for February will be investigated.

Kristin will liaise with Parks & Recreation (as outlined above).

Kristin will explore some professional development topics within the school system including how to refer certain types of behavior.

With no other items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Dawn Egan, seconded by Jennifer Gremmel Hunt at 7:05 pm.