

Minutes from the Commission for Children & Youth Meeting, Monday, September 20, 2010 in the Commission Room at Town Hall.

Attending: Commission Members: Nancy McCormick, Dan Doak, Dawn Egan, Jeff Drobner, Ellen Weyrauch, Emily Weyrauch, Jennifer Skor; Staff: Kristen Ferrara, Charlene Monn; Guest: Charlene Chiang Hillman.

The meeting was called to order at 5:20 pm. Nancy welcomed everyone and there was a review of the June planning notes. The most important item that came out of this meeting was the need to enhance communication about the Department of Youth Services and their programs. Kristen worked on developing a website over the summer and also on developing an online registration page.

Office reports: Kristen Ferrara, Director, reported on the new website, [www.westonyouthservices.org](http://www.westonyouthservices.org), which features online registration for WOW! programs and the ability to pay online by visa/mc. We offered 37 programs for online registration. We are running 27 programs. There is a way for subsidized children to register online as well. Only one of four programs at WIS went forward. She will update it to include links, bios, and other pertinent information. She will use this website to publicize the department and the variety of services which are offered.

Kristen attended the majority of Back To School nights to distribute information about the department and services.

Kristen is looking for programming ideas for parent programs at all schools but primarily for parents with children at the middle school and high school. Some programming ideas include the following: a program with DVCC about healthy relationships at WMS targeting parents of 6th through 10th grade; Wellness and College Transition at WHS.

The program Our Daughters' Voices is coming to Weston. This is a 4 week course from Positive Directions.

Top Driver is back Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursdays. Kristen will put a link to Top Driver on the website. It was also suggested that a one sheet on the new DMV rules (for parents) would be helpful.

Charlene Monn, Program Coordinator, reported on summer camps. There was an 83% increase in net revenue from last year to this year. She also has hired new high school students to help with WOW! afterschool programs.

Commission Business: Nancy reminded everyone that this was her last meeting on the Commission for Children and Youth and thanked everyone. She also said it had been a pleasure to serve on this commission.

There was no old business.

Under new business, Kristen Ferrara and Charlene Chiang Hillman met with the new social worker in the schools and said things seem to be going well. Also Nancy will send out an email to Superintendent Belair asking for additional representation on the board from WMS or WIS.

With no other business to conduct, on a motion by Dawn Egan, seconded by Jennifer Skor, the meeting was adjourned at 6:33 pm.