



COMMITTEE ON YOUTH MEETING
MINUTES

Supervisor
Brian P. McGuire

Clerk
Katy Dolan Baumer

Assessor
Khaja Moinuddin

Trustees
Alisa "Lee" Beattie
Denise Camacho
Craig Essick
Eugene N. Martinez

Administrator
James C. Barr

Monday, February 28, 2022

1. Call to Order: A meeting of the Hanover Township Committee on Youth was called to order at 6:37 pm by Jordan Wildermuth on February 28, 2022 at 250 South Route 59, Bartlett, IL.
 - a. Members Present: Bill Henderson, Jordan Wildermuth, Rob Wojtowicz, Corey Elton, Savannah Widmann, Nazneen Hashmi, and Ariel Correa.
 - b. Members not present: Jennifer Delao
 - c. Staff and Township representatives present: Alisa "Lee" Beattie and Tina Houdek, Director of Hanover Township Youth and Family Services.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Public Comments: None
4. Reports:
 - a. Trustee Liaison report – We are really moving along and looking good at Izaak Walton Center. Lee shared some of the most recent upgrades and how nice things are looking. Looking forward to Celebration of Leaders and next steps with the work at Izaak Walton.

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- b. Director Report – Tina shared that she’s looking into a date that we can use for one of our meetings at Izaak Walton. She shared that almost everything is done minus the beautification part with flowers, etc. However, she’s looking to send us an invite for the grand opening. She had hoped to start some group programming at the Izaak Walton Center and they have been using their transportation services but have only had 2-5 individuals show up on a regular basis. They have visited some other youth centers and are looking for what has been working and not working as a way to further inform us with our Izaak Walton Youth Center. She shared that most youth centers that they have visited have a focus and target the middle school population of youth. They are looking at a core of 12 or so middle schoolers that continue to come and use the center on Wednesdays and Fridays, so she is hopeful that the linkage is there for them when they enter high school next year. They are looking into hiring youth program assistants and they have not been successful with hiring for this position.

See highlights below:

Department Highlights:

- YFS staff participated in the Active Threat Training on January 4 specific to the Izaak Walton Youth Center.
- For the month of January, the department had 11 duplicated and 9 unduplicated youth participate at the Izaak Walton Youth Center free drop-in teen hours. Program was suspended for two weeks due to participant and staff needing to isolate due to Covid.
- Manager Gonzalez attended the webinar, “No Surprises Act: Vital Information for Counselors” on January 11. Manager Gonzalez will be presenting this information to all family therapists.
- Manager Gonzalez presented virtually to the U-46 parent group Café Con Leche on January 20 regarding mental health care for parents and their children. Manager Gonzalez shared department programming to participants.
- Brandon Urbina Vargas accepted the position of Youth Program Assistant on January 25. A start date will be determined once background checks have been completed.
- Manager Gonzalez has begun conducting interviews in January for possible internship opportunities for the department.

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- Manager Dickinson, Program Coordinator Miguel, and Human Resources Manager Callahan conducted five first round interviews for the Youth Program Assistant position in the month of January.
- Director Houdek and Manager Dickinson joined the Chicago Metro Area Youth Leaders Consortium. This consortium is made up of organizations that have youth centers.

5. Unfinished Business: none

6. New Business:

- a. Approval of January 24, 2022 Minutes: Motion was made by Bill Henderson and second by Rob Wojtowicz. The Motion carried– all in favor.

- b. Cookies and Cocoa with Santa Member-Recap:

Corey shared how impressed she was with the steady flow of participants. She appreciated the layout but felt there was a time that perhaps in the basement might have become a bit over crowded. Rob shared his perspective and suggested areas of improvement with the cleaning. Tina will take back this information regarding tablecloths, cookie making area and crafting for next year. Tina shared that next year using the heavy duty garbage bags is needed as hot chocolate and the thinner clear bags used this year were not good.

See notes from prior meeting below: Bill Henderson shared his experience of the event. Just over 200 individuals attended the event. Trustee Beatie asked the committee if this is an event that COY would like to continue to support and sponsor. The committee shared that the attendance was a positive reflection and that we wanted to wait for our other members from COY to be present to further discuss the matter. Overall, the COY felt the event results and activities were worthwhile.

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c. Izaak Walton Youth Center Update:

Savannah shared her recent training with “snowball” programming and that the next training will be March 22nd 4-7pm at Izaak Walton just before the Board meeting. Tessa is inviting all of us at COY to attend. 10 youth leaders attend the bi-annual conference that focus on youth leadership skills and this particular presentation in March will be for adults that are interested in learning about ACEs and the childhood impact with regard to drug use and other elements.

See notes from the last meeting below:COY is excited and waiting to get the opportunity to visit the center. Trustee Lee Beatie shared some current progress on the status of the construction-taking place.

d. Hoppin for Hanover Event: The event will be April 9th from 1-4pm at the Izaak Walton Youth Center. Set up will be 1 hour before and clean-up 1 hour after. Tina shared the sign up sheet for COY. She shared that the Hanover Township Youth and Family Services employees would help with the candy, filling the eggs, and activities, but she wanted the COY members to show up just prior to the start of the event and we would be given instructions on each of our roles/responsibilities.

e. Celebration of Leadership Planning: The committee discussed the element of applicant’s contribution, provides support in a leadership capacity or works in Hanover Township would be included in the application. The committee took consensus and all agreed and added to the commentary so that Tina could make the changes unto the actual applications. Tina also asked for COY to look at our calendars for potential dates on May 17th or May 24th and she would take those dates to the Superintendent. The committee discussed plan A and plan B for the event now that the mask mandate has been lifted. The committee also

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discussed getting a keynote speaker with no more than 10 minutes and incorporating the actual awards to lead into the actual celebration of awards. Jordan also brought up the last dialogue if we were looking to place a capacity for the event. After much discussion, the committee chose not to place a capacity as past year turnouts have been in the 45-60 individuals range. The committee discussed focusing on the winners and their families as well as saturating the elected officials and organizations within the township. Tina will share with us at the next meeting the list of invitees in the past and the COY will comb through the list to focus on Hanover Township. Savannah will meet with her Music/Band teacher to see if the jazz band is able to attend. Lastly, Tina and Lee reached out to the new Culinary instructor at SHS to host and serve food at the event. She will be in contact further with her for next steps. At the next meeting Tina will bring past scripts and the committee will select the order of presentations and who is presenting which award.

See notes from last meeting below:

- After speaking with James, Director Houdek would like COY to come up with two suggestions. The official date will more than likely be in late May after the Board Meeting in May 2022. Dr. Correa and Jordan Wildermuth shared brief history and recap of past Celebration of Leadership event in May. The committee discussed action planning for potentially trying to get the applications out after our February meeting and then market it in March so that we can finalize and select the leaders in late April for our Mat Celebration.
- The Committee also discussed potential options of doing a virtual celebration like we did last year with pre-recorded sessions and if an in-person celebration is to take place, then the committee prefers to have an outdoor celebration. The committee shared the idea of using the Township's white canopies and items to ensure that this celebration is a nicely orchestrated celebration outside. The COY discussed looking at putting a capacity limit and ensuring that based on celebration activities have parent permissions, and taking

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into account parents that want to attend and see their son/daughter's performance.

- Trustee Beatie will speak with Streamwood High School music teacher to see his thoughts on best ways to elevate our past celebration activities. Additionally, Savannah Widmann will ask her band teacher at Bartlett High School.
- Prior to the February COY meeting Director Houdek will send out the application, rubric and supporting documentation for the committee to preview and come prepared for the February meeting.

7. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by Bill Henderson at 7:37 PM and seconded by Nazneen Hasmi – all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Dr. Ariel Correa, Secretary of Youth and Family Services

Next Meeting Date: March 28, 2022—Downey Hall

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