

## **Wethersfield Youth Advisory Board Meeting October 6, 2005**

**Members in Attendance:** Maria Calleri, Matthew Daskal, Sharon DiGioia-Daskal, Debra Hammer, Melissa Hoon, Ryan Jordan, Susan Miller, Barbara Ruhe, Nancy Stilwell, Kaitlin Taylor, Kristin Zeller.

**The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.**

[The minutes from the September meeting](#) were reviewed and accepted.

### **Department of Youth Services Update**

- The departmental evaluation criterion has been received. There is not a date scheduled for the evaluation to take place as of today.
- ROPE has started at Highcrest.
- The counseling load is picking up.
- New Office - should be moved in the first week of January 2006.
- A piano donation was received and the offer was forwarded to the Town Library for their new youth room.
- Fuel Bank/Special Needs Fund - focus is on gaining funds for the Special Needs Fund since these monies can be used for fuel or other necessities. A mailing has gone out to previous donors.
- Possible school fundraising for the fuel bank during this year's holiday season.

### **Youth Advisory Board Update**

- Cornfest - went well; the weather held out until the end; Sue, Matt, Nancy, and Deb were able to attend and help out at the booth; YAB netted \$208.00 from the booth; Identified improvements for next year's Cornfest - provide raffles that kids would want; Massage Therapists have agreed to do this again next year; Other ideas for next year include: guess weight of pumpkin, announce/publicize raffles early on.

### **Youth in Government**

- Subcommittee reports that this year's event will take place at Hanmer School with the 5th grade students.
- Activities include having a panel of political speakers and media speakers and a school-wide vote using the town's voting machine.

### **Underage Drinking Task Force**

- Plan activity for the spring (possibly April)
- Possibly combine with Youth Services from Newington and bring in a theatre troupe
- Target audiences will be middle school students and their parents

### **Other Business**

- A letter will be drafted to Town board chairs and commissions asking that youth be allowed to sit in on meetings and include possible internships.
- Nancy Stilwell will meet with Bonnie Therrien to inform her that we are looking into this.
- Shadowing Program - communicate to students that these opportunities are available to them.
- CAS Recognition ceremony (Connecticut Association of Schools) - held a ceremony for all the elementary schools in CT who donated money for the Tsunami Relief efforts last year. Four students from Hanmer School went to the ceremony and were able to meet Chris Dodd and President Bill Clinton (and have pictures taken too!).

## **Financial Report**

- We have \$1,529 in our budget with pending receipts.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.**