



John Salomone  
Town Manager

# TOWN OF NEWINGTON

131 Cedar Street Newington, Connecticut 06111

## Department of Human Services

### Youth-Adult Council

Tim Manke, Chairperson



Karen Futoma  
Director

**Monday, October 20, 2014**  
**Conference Rm. 117 (near Town Manager's office)**

## AGENDA

- I.** Call to Order 7pm.  
Tim Cunningham, Jessica Weaver, Macee Buckley, Austin Matteson, Steve Parker, Josh Shulman, Sandy Pilz, Karen Futoma, Enzo Zocco
- II.** Approval of September 8, 2014 minutes  
Minutes were approved
- III.** HOOPLA review/ideas-Sandy Pilz
  - A. Discussion about moving Super Hoopla to a Saturday instead of a Friday night. The date that we will check if we do move it to a Saturday is March 14, 2015. There is a possibility of a new format in which there will be a double elimination for teams. The duration of the event would be about 8 hours, from about 10am to 6pm. Another option would be to split it into two nights, one night for boys and one night for girls. But this option seemed to have less support. We will look into whether the date is available and communicate to the committee.
- IV.** Discussion regarding future direction of Youth Adult Council, enhanced youth involvement
  - A. Getting the youth more involved in leading to create events, coming up with ideas for events, and providing more information to the committee about what student needs are.
  - B. One idea for a need to have an event to better support the college application process beyond what the school counselors provide already. The essay portion of the application process is an area of need. The putting together of all the information that is needed for the common application is an area of need that the youth representation at YAC sees a need for. Students are stressing a need to get more information during their junior year to get a head start of what is needed to prepare for the college application process. One idea was to contact CCSU to get future teachers that are majoring in education to help support NHS juniors and seniors. Another idea is to include more topics related to the college application process in junior and senior advisories. Contacting local tech schools is also an idea proposed. Another idea is to get this done through Channel 14 by working with channel 14 to host workshops on the post-secondary application process. Another idea is to

provide more support to parents for the college application process to support students. Lastly, we can have the YAC student representatives meet with members of our school counseling departments to take inventory of what is currently being offered to help students prepare for the post-secondary process already so that we can explore how to potentially support this process even more, particularly in the junior year.

- V.** Student YAC representation 2014-2015  
3 students are present at tonight's meeting.

**VI.** Reports

- a. Youth-Nov 7<sup>th</sup> pep rally. Nov 8<sup>th</sup> Homecoming Dance. Student Council hosted a pink out day for breast cancer awareness. Teacher Tuesdays have been implemented this year for almost monthly half days to promote teacher professional development focused on improved instruction and student learning. There are more clubs being offered this year including the Model U.N.
- b. SEAN (Special Education Alliance of Newington)-New school year has new activities. Oct 7<sup>th</sup> was a meet-and-greet for new administrative special education staff. On October 22<sup>nd</sup>, a workshop is offered for parents of autistic children. November workshop (3 night course) for parents with students with special needs with the focus on transition to adulthood. Other workshops will include being an advocate for your special needs child and an IPAD workshop.
- c. Police-youth grant which included a ROPES course. About ten students participated in this program. A new officer was hired this week.
- d. Library-noone
- e. School Administration-spirit week begins at the end of next week and goes through the following week leading to the pep rally and the homecoming dance. The college fair is this Thursday, October 23rd.
- f. Town Council-none
- g. Board of Education-Negotiations with teachers on the new contract may conclude tomorrow night. There is a Teacher of the Year dinner on Wednesday night to honor the district teacher of the year.
- h. Human Services-is getting ready for Thanksgiving distribution, working on a hoarding taskforce to work with and provide mental health supports with people with hoarding issues. There was a depression screening service provided by human services. The challenge course was used a lot this past month. There were no JRB referrals for the month of September.

- VII.** Other Business  
None

- VIII.** Adjournment at 8:10pm