

## **Youth-Adult Council 05/10/10 Meeting Summary**

**Attendees:** Tim Manke, Tim Cunningham, Mike Gaydos, Karen Benner, Liz Palaia, Sarah LaPierre, Billy Pollock, Dan Cronin, Steve Cronin, Bob Newbolt - Chamber of Commerce, Nikki Besitko and Sarah Morocco – Best Buddies, Jeremy Visone, Karen Faust – Human Rights, Myra Cohen , Ken Freidenberg

**Call to order @ 7:00pm**

### **Approval of previous summary**

Approved by unanimous consent

### **Human Rights Commission – proposal of a “Giving Tree” at the Newington Extravaganza - Karen Faust, Chairperson – July 17.**

- Seeking volunteer help from YAC
- Time would be from 9-3
- Two-hour time shifts
- Request to have the SEPTA table next to “Giving Tree” Table

### **Continued exploration of a community based mentoring program for at-risk and special needs children and youth – Bringing the stakeholders to the table**

- Representatives from Best Buddies Connecticut – Program review
  - I. Approx. \$6,000 to implement a Best Buddies Chapter in one school – State Director would work with Newington to implement a program throughout the district.
  - II. Currently serving CCSU, St. Joseph’s College, Rocky Hill, Glastonbury, Bristol, Southington, Cheshire, West Hartford
  - III. Size of group will depend upon size of school – Will aim for 10 “Buddy Pairs”
  - IV. Students and faculty would have to complete training
  - V. Primarily a school-based program
- The Governor’s Prevention Partnership
  - I. Mr. Visone will present The Governor’s Prevention Partnership to Administrative Council (Newington School Administration). Training for this program would take place during Aug. 18-19.
  - II. At the middle and high school level, students participate in Unified Sports and regular education students are acting as mentors on an informal basis
  - III. Mrs. Dena Tompkins will be invited to YAC to speak about Unified Sports and student mentoring
  - IV. Discussion of program possibilities
- YAC would like to reach-out to students who are considered “at-risk” and students with special needs.
- Mr. Visone and Mr. Gaydos will identify possible students and activities

## **Announcements and/or Information Sharing**

### **Reports**

**High School** – AP Testing, Senior Prom & Senior Prom Promise

**SEPTA** – Early Diagnose program, Scholarship applicant chosen, social event for June

**Police** – Officer Webster retired, Eagle Scout project by NHS student – Improving “St. Mary’s Path” – will begin on Saturday 5/15 - PD is increasing patrols in area, Graffiti in Town, McDermott Scholarship Students selected

**Human Services** – attached to 5/10 agenda

**School Administration** – Mr. Visone was appointed as Principal of Anna Reynolds Elementary School, H.S. graduation is now June 24 – the Day after the last day of school

**Town Council** – Budget passed 5/4

**Board of Education** – No report

**Library** – Re-employment support group, Anemie Program, volunteers needed for several upcoming programs

**Other-** Rotary has Geno Auriema attending a reception at Indian Hill

**Adjournment @ 8:35 pm**

Respectfully Submitted By: Mike Gaydos