

SLC Youth Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 25, 2021 3:00pm Via Zoom

Meeting called to order at 3:04pm



Attendance

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- Attendees: Alexa Backus, Rebekah Zuhlsdorf, Karen Bage, Casey Canell, Terri Gilmour, Ellen Hurlbut, Michele James, Zachary Monroe, Joanne Sevick, Amber Sullivan, Nicole Terminelli. Youth attendees: Cole Siebels. Guest: Alaina Goodrich, Adam Simmons.

Minute Approval

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- Minutes Approval: Thursday, January 28, 2021 YAB Minutes - Motion to approve by Zachary Monroe, second by Joanne Sevick, Motion passed.

Youth Bureau Report

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- Welcome Adam Simmons! St. Lawrence County Director Weights and Measures
 - Monthly BYD (Bureau of Youth Development) meeting
 - Tuesday, February 16th, 10am via ZOOM
 - Rebekah Zuhlsdorf attended for the Youth Bureau
 - BYD discussing 2021-2022 Youth Council
 - BYD reviewing Cuomo's proposed 2021-2022 Executive Budget
 - 5% across the board reductions (YDP reduced from \$14.1 to \$13.4 million)
 - YDP appropriation language was changed to require claims to be submitted within 3 months of expenditure instead of 12 months.
 - Program Annual Assessment coming up for completion soon
 - RFP-Response for Proposal
 - Last RFP was released on 6/2018 and applications were due to YB 8/2018 for 2019-2021 funding for Youth Development Programs.
 - 2022-2024 YDP Request for Proposal will be released early 3rd quarter 2021.
 - We are receiving request about our timeline-Town of Canton and Waddington
 - We will release via news media and email contacts
 - Karen also suggested to send the RFP to Heidi Ames in the planning department as she has a large distribution list for grant notices

Discussion about RFP:

- Joanne added that it was changed to a 3 year term because of the amount of work that it entails and it was difficult to complete on a shorter timeline.
- The RFP will be a new RFP based on a new needs assessment for the County.

- Zachary asked, How often are needs assessments completed? Joanne stated that for the YDP RFP a needs assessment should be completed every 3 years, then you have to report to the state plan on where you have come with your goals based on that RFP.
- Zachary asked that with a 3 year RFP does years 2 and 3 receive less funds because of the budget, like this year had a 5% reduction? Joanne responded with Yes, there is a disclaimer in the contract that states it is based on what OCFS grants, and the grant award can change throughout the 3 years.
- Alexa adds that Ruth would like the Youth Bureau to utilize all means of disseminating information about the RFP, she would like to see us double the amount of programs we are helping out with YDP funding. Joanne said that's difficult because the funds keep decreasing and it's a lot of work for a municipality to put into a grant application and receive less funds.
- Karen suggested putting a cap on the maximum amount of funds that can be requested. Joanne added that can all be written into the RFP when it is developed. She states that there used to be a lot more programs funded but the grants also were more. And if programs were only getting \$100 they didn't bother following through with the process because it wasn't worth it. Karen said a formula was made to allocate funding based on population.
- Mental Health First Aid-YOUTH Trainer Certification
 - February 16th, 17th, and 18th from 12pm-8pm virtual training completed!
 - Next Steps- To continue learning about the program and getting more comfortable with presenting the information. Alexa will be able to offer 3 certification classes in 1 year, each class is about 8 hours of participation. There are virtual based classes that can be offered as well.

ANNUAL MEETING-January 2021

- Election of Board positions-Joanne and Zachary (Nomination Committee)
 - **Chairman-Zachary Monroe**
 - **Vice-Chairman-Casey Canell**
 - Other nominations received were for Karen Bage and Ellen Hurlbut
 - Final Approval from full board members, Karen motioned to elect Zachary Monroe as Chair and Casey Canell as Vice Chair. Joanne Sevick seconded and all in favor.
 - **Secretary-Rebekah Zuhlsdorf**
- Committees
 - **Allocation Committee**-Karen, Terri, Michele
 - **Youth Committee**-Alexa, Ellen, Nicole, Casey, Rebekah
 - Other
 - **Membership Committee**-Alexa, Rebekah
 - **Grant Committee** (Alexa's request)
 - To help with the grant process-Karen Bage, Zachary Monroe and Terri Gilmour.
 - **Nomination Committee**-Joanne, Zachary

- New Members (Bio Data sheets have been submitted to Board of Legislators)
 - Alaina Goodrich (taking Jerry Mahoney's seat), Jenna Ellinger (non-voting), Rebekah Zuhlsdorf (Youth Bureau Secretary), Isabelle Vaccaro (Youth, 11th Grade, Colton-Pierrepoint), Mattie Lomoglio (Youth, 9th Grade, Potsdam), Adam Simmons

New Business

- **Connecting Seniors and Youth-A St. Lawrence County Pen Pal Program**
 - We are starting to pair pen pals together
 - Feedback from Rebekah- 18 older adults signed up and 1 nursing home at Clifton-Fine hospital, 17 youth signed up with 3 schools and 6 different grades. Total youth up to 200. Some teachers requested an older adult for every youth. We advised that smaller groups may have to work together for now until we have more older adults registrar.
 - Registration link here >> <https://forms.gle/fGuxjg4fAdBWJzqW7>
- **Safe Harbour Human Trafficking Advocacy**
 - Meets approximately 4 times/year
 - Advertising and launching programs current focus
- **North Country Human Trafficking Task Force (NCHTTF)** Zoom meeting 1/28/21 1-3pm
 - *Community Engagement Partnership-Our involvement*
 - Next meeting April
- **People Project and Buddy Project**
 - Meeting every other week
 - Virtual tutoring and parent support group
 - A great collaboration between People Project, Youth Bureau, SUNY Potsdam, SUNY Canton and SLU
- **College Connections-A College Mentorship Program**
 - Ellen, Casey, Alexa
 - Casey has met with SAAC (Student Athlete Advisory) Presidents at SUNY Potsdam and Clarkson and discussed interest. Next, SUNY Canton and SLU
 - Will be arranging Zoom meeting with the 4 SAAC Presidents
 - Alexa working on small presentation for meeting
 - Ellen has developed an online registration form
- **Connecting St. Lawrence County Youth Services**-Promoting Cooperation and Collaboration
 - Quarterly Meetings-First meeting scheduled Tuesday, March 9th 2:00 pm via Zoom
 - Shared Google doc
 - We are already receiving speaker requests
- **Youth Committee update**- Cole Siebels
 - EMC Partnership with Youth Committee for Earth Day (Andrew and Cole-lead)
 - Andrew putting together virtual workshop on reducing carbon footprints

- Andrew created an informational slideshow that is focusing on local businesses that are eco friendly, collecting information to be released to the public to help promote what we can do in the county to reduce CO2 emission and reduce our carbon footprint. Youth are excited to get involved.
- **Trash Dash 5K** Saturday and Sunday April 24th and 25th
 - Global Youth Service Day April 23-25
 - Earth Day Thursday, April 22
 - Cole working on \$250 grant through Hershey's Heartwarming Project with Alexa
 - Update from Adam- Reached out to Larry legault with SLC solid waste, also spoke to Don Chambers to get permission to use county trucks and check on locations. May waive fee as well.
 - Rebekah created an online registration form for teams to sign up.
 - Have Steve Button look at verbiage on forms for legality reasons.
 - Abby Huges will design a logo for signs and forms
 - Zachary states PALS have some left over money for community clean up projects, maybe that could help with supplies.

Old Business

- Valentine's Card Drive with Office for the Aging
 - YB received over 2000+ cards
 - Jenna Stiles-11th grade Massena High School
 - Made over 300 cards
 - Interviewed by Watertown Daily Times & featured 2/20
- Valentine Victories-Making a Heart Healthy Snack Workshop
 - Wednesday, February 10th 3:30 pm via Zoom
 - Partnership with SNAP-ED Cornell Cooperative Extension-Caitlin Potter
 - Approximately 19 students 3rd-6th grade attended

Action Items

- Support Pen Pal Program-we need youth and seniors to sign up
- Fill out "Connecting St. Lawrence County Youth Services" information in Google doc and forward to peers, programs, and organizations working with county youth and attend meeting 3/9/2021
- Support April's Trash Dash 4/24-4/25

Next Meeting

- Thursday, March 25th 3:00 via Zoom
- Next Youth Committee meeting Wednesday, March 24th 4pm via Zoom
 - Please email Alexa if you are interested in joining a YC meeting