

YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD

Youth Committee MEETING NOTES-Wednesday, May 19th2021- 7:00 pm

Via ZOOM

MEETING MINUTES

Present:

- Ms. Alexa Backus-SLC Youth Bureau Director
- Ms. Ellen Hurlbut-St. Lawrence Health Initiative
- Amanda Woods-Youth, Colton Pierrepont Central
- Hailey Williamson-Youth, Potsdam High
- Andrew Demers-Youth, Heuvelton Central
- Isabelle Vaccaro-Youth, Colton Pierrepont Central
- Mattie Lomoglio-Youth, Potsdam High

Meeting Opening

- Called to Order at 7:05 pm
- Approved 4/21/21 Meeting Minutes
 - ✓ Amanda motioned to approved, Hailey 2nd , motion passed

New/Old Business & Updates

SLC Youth Committee Environmental Projects

- Drew presented *Reducing Your Carbon Footprint in St. Lawrence County* on Thursday, April 29th
- Drew commented that he was very satisfied with attendance and felt attendees took away some good tips
- 34 attendees, great job-Alexa commented it was great to see Heuvelton showing up to show their support for Drew's efforts including the high school principal, teachers, and students. Students received extra credit for attending. Alexa also commented that it would be great to see other schools supporting our initiatives and even offering incentives for students to attend.
- Youth Committee member attendance
 - ✓ Alexa commented that no youth committee members participated in this event and recommended that we support one another's efforts.
- Moving forward-other EMC opportunities
 - ✓ Alexa emailed John Tenbusch for feedback about EMC's plans to celebrate their 50th Anniversary and continued partnership ideas
 - ✓ Alexa will keep us posted on the feedback and welcome Youth Committee to think of other environmentally friendly projects or initiatives. What's next? Alexa recommended Youth Committee to revisit this in June.

2021 Trash Dash 5K Feedback

- April 24th and 25th – 86 participants/including 56 youth
- Feedback-Amanda commented that it was an eye-opening experience to see the amount of garbage that was collected and the frustration that people are so careless about littering. She enjoyed being part of a smaller group in Potsdam because it was easy to manage.
- Alexa added that Gouverneur was a very large group and appreciated the support from Adam Simmons and the Gouverneur National Honor Society chaperone, Marcy Tyler, GHS Guidance Counselor. With Adam and Marcy overseeing the group, trash pick-up ran smoothly.
- Alexa also commented that feedback was very positive and it's something we could consider next year. Great job, everyone!
- Hershey's Young Heroes Global Service Day Grant
 - Final Impact Report completed on Friday, May 14th by Alexa

Public Health “I GOT COVID 19 VACCINATED BECAUSE...” Initiative

- Question: What message do you need, as youth, to get vaccinated?”
- PSA Video and volunteers
 - ✓ Amanda and Isabelle taped a PSA together. Amanda is working on editing it before submitting to Youth Bureau. Alexa also stated she would email Amanda a photo-release for parents to sign of any students in the video. Thank you, Amanda!
 - ✓ Both Amanda and Mattie will complete the poster “I GOT COVID VACCINATED BECAUSE...” and take a picture of themselves holding the sign. This will be used on Facebook and Instagram. They will email it to Alexa.
- Q&A Ask Dr. Williams flyer posted on Facebook and Instagram
 - ✓ Alexa encouraged Youth Committee members to read over the flyer and look at Dr. Williams' responses. The responses are very helpful informing other teens about the COVID vaccine.

May Events

- **Youth Needs Assessment Grades 6-12 May 3rd-21st**
 - Please complete-Alexa encouraged everyone to complete the survey if they haven't done so
 - Peer completion-have you asked your friends to complete the survey?
 - ✓ Alexa asked about how it's been received. Mattie, Amanda, and Hailey all had peers completing it.
 - This Friday, May 21st is final day to complete-Alexa asked that everyone does a final push to get as many teens to complete the survey by Friday. She emphasized that the results are used in making decisions about future teen programming in the county.
- **Virtual Town Hall Meetings**
 - One for YOUTH ONLY-How are YOU? Reducing the stigma of mental illness
 - One for Parents and Community Members Only-HOLD
 - Conducted on Wednesday, May 12th at 7 pm
 - ✓ Feedback was very positive. Amanda stated she felt attendees all benefitted from the workshop. She appreciated the feedback other

teens were providing during the meeting. Drew stated he felt he learned a few things and felt really good about the whole experience. He recommends that the Youth Committee continues to offer these workshops.

- ✓ Alexa also added that we helped a participant from Lisbon and it was great to see the participant asking about the next meeting. Alexa added that some youth emailed after the meeting started about last minute attendance. She knows there's interest and emphasized May has been a very busy month to try to offer meetings and workshops. Everyone agreed that offering it again after school starts in the fall like September or October. She also encouraged Youth Committee members to consider receiving training and offering to facilitate future workshops since Drew and Abby are both graduated. Let Alexa know if you are interested.
- **Two Virtual Workshops on Cyberbullying-HOLD**
 - One for Youth
 - One for Parents
- ✓ Alexa added that May is "Get Caught Reading Month" and asked that we submit a photo getting caught reading or a video read along to a younger student or even reading a small paragraph passage from a favorite book or poem. She strongly encourage Youth Committee participation! She will use this on Facebook and Instagram.

COMING UP THIS SUMMER

- **Summer Youth Employment Opportunities**
 - Summer Youth Intern Vacancy approval set for June 7th Legislative meeting
 - ✓ Alexa will post job opening after June 7th final approval. She said the Youth Bureau will be hiring 4-5 summer youth interns to help with social media and newsletter content, revamping and restructuring County School Tours, and researching Teen to Teen Mentor program for high school students during the school year. Hours will probably be structured Monday-Friday (or Thursday) 9 am to 1 pm and run about 6 weeks.
 - ✓ Drew asked about application process. Alexa answered that teens will have to apply and be interviewed for hire.
- **Monthly Newsletters**
 - Interest in article or artwork submission?
 - ✓ Alexa asked if anyone is interested in submitting an article for the June newsletter. She also welcomed us to ask our friends, especially teens interested in journalism, to write newsletter content. Let Alexa know if you would like to submit anything.

Meeting Wrap Up

- Review actions to be taken
 - ✓ Amanda to receive photo release for her friend who was taped on the vaccine video. Amanda to edit the PSA and submit to Alexa. Amanda and Mattie taking a picture with the "I got Vaccinated" poster and submit to Alexa.
- Next meeting **Wednesday, June 16th**
- Time will be determined via Doodle Poll week of June 1st
 - ✓ Drew added that he's planning to continue contributing to our monthly meetings until he leaves for college in August.

- ✓ Alexa also noted that we will honor Drew and Abby's graduation during our June meeting.
- Meeting adjourned at 7:41 pm