

TOWN OF CROMWELL
Youth Advisory Board
Special Meeting
Tuesday, January 23, 2024 6:30 P.M.
Held on Zoom
MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order at 6:48 pm by Gayle Ivy.
Seconded by Maggie Schufer.

2. INTRODUCTIONS/ROLL CALL – Sarah Calos, Jessica Zeedyk, Gayle Ivy, Barbara Mcclane, Officer Peter Pietrarolia, Wyatt Bonaiuto, Sebastian Busque, Hailey Stone, Maggie Schufer.

3. APPROVE/AMEND AGENDA – A motion to approve the January 23, 2024 agenda was made by Gayle Ivy. Seconded by Barbara Mcclane.

4. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES - A motion to approve the December 19, 2023 meeting minutes was made by Gayle Ivy. Seconded by Barbara Mcclane.

5. OLD BUSINESS

a. Family Resource Expo & Preschool Showcase March 7, 2024 – Sarah provided details regarding the status of the Expo planning. She advised the group that invites went out to vendors and that to date there are 14 vendors signed up to attend.

b. YAB poster contest – Sarah presented the draft of the CMS poster contest flyer. There were no suggested edits from the group. Wyatt suggested a Visa gift card as a prize. Sarah reported that the flyer will go out in February, and voting will take place by the Youth Advisory Board at the March 2024 meeting. Hailey questioned if board members could participate. The board agreed that they are able, but then must abstain from voting.

c. Volunteer opportunities – Jess presented volunteer opportunities that included the Family Resource Expo and Preschool Showcase event, the Valentines for Veterans event, and the Narcan Training.

6. NEW BUSINESS- None

7. STANDING REPORTS

a. Schools – None

b. Youth Services – Sarah reported on the following:

- The Cromwell Youth Services budget was submitted. The budget proposal includes requested funds for a recording secretary for the Youth Advisory Board, funds to hire a part-time program/outreach assistant, Cromwell Police overtime (added to the PD budget), and to match the JRB grant we receive. CRYD is seeing more in-depth cases that require more time and resources than in past years.
- The Cromwell Diaper Bank has collected 4,710 diapers to date from the community. An average of 12 children get diapers per month from the Cromwell Diaper Bank. Other

communities have reached out for advice on how to start Diaper Banks in their community.

- The Connecticut Youth Services Association Legislative Meeting will take place on Wednesday, January 24. Mayor James Demetriades will be attending.

c. Town Council – Paula provided a report via email reporting the following information:

- Three Police recruits were sworn in on January 4 and are now undergoing training at the police academy.
- A fourth vaccination clinic will be held in the gym on February 7 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Vaccines available include flu, Covid boosters, pneumonia, shingles, T-Dap, and RSV.
- A Community Forum led by Mayor James Demetriades was held on Zoom on January 3 from 7 to 8 PM. Mayor James hopes to continue these community forums where he can hear and respond to the questions and concerns of town residents.
- As we are in the midst of budget time, department heads from Recreation, Social Services, Public Works, Library, Police, and Planning/Development recently spoke about their departments at two special council meetings in January.

d. Police Department – Office Pietraroia reported the following:

- There are three new Cromwell Police Officers with one currently at the Police Academy.
- Cromwell Police Department and Cromwell Youth Services are partnering with Cromwell High School to provide students with a mock car crash event. The event will include speakers from Mothers Against Drunk Driving and involvement from students and staff.
- D.A.R.E. will begin soon for fifth graders and the program will finish in May. He is currently in training as he will be taking over for Detective Tolton as D.A.R.E Instructor.
- The Cromwell Police Department will hold an Easter Bunny event in March and also have a t-shirt sale. Follow the Cromwell Police Department's social media for notification of all events.

e. Youth - Wyatt discussed a helmet project that Cromwell Middle School students completed. Hailey discussed a project called “What Would Daniel Do?” that involved students completing a Community Service Project in honor of a victim of the Sandy Hook Elementary tragedy.

8. CITIZEN REPORT - None

9. FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORGANIZATION- Barbara will be holding a vision board workshop in the Senior Center on February 12, at 10:30 am. The Board members wished Gayle well on her upcoming surgery.

10. ADJOURN- A motion to adjourn was made by Gayle Ivy at 7:14 pm. Seconded by Barbara McClane.

Jessica Zeedyk, Recording clerk