

TOWN OF CROMWELL

Youth Advisory Board Tuesday, April 18, 2023 6:30 P.M. Town Hall Lower Level with Zoom option

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order by Margaret Schufer at 6:37 PM.
Seconded by Gayle Ivy.

2. ROLL CALL - Sarah Maffioli, Jessica Zeedyk, Gayle Ivy, Paula Luna, Haley Stone, Suzanne Rutner, Jason Barber, Margaret Schufer, and Detective Tolton.

3. APPROVE/AMEND AGENDA - A motion to approve the April 18, 2023 meeting agenda was made by Gayle Ivy. Seconded by Suzanne Rutner.

4. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

a. Prior Meeting: 3.21.2023 - A motion to approve the March 21, 2023 meeting minutes was made by Gayle Ivy. Seconded by Suzanne Rutner.

5. OLD BUSINESS

a. Recruiting new members

- i. Shirts - Sarah reported that the Youth Advisory Board's shirts have been ordered. She will have them at the May meeting.
- ii. Group photo - The board agreed to postpone the photo until the shirts have arrived.

b. Cromwell Community Center

- i. Letter of support - A final draft was presented by Jessica. Members reviewed, made grammatical corrections, and a vote was made to submit the final draft with proposed edits, and to include the names of both the youth and adults on the board. The vote passed unanimously.
- c. YAB fundraising - Jessica reported that there is a Girl Scout Troop in town that would like to donate a portion of the cookie sales to Cromwell Youth Services, and she is working with the troop to come up with how they can help. The board discussed ideas such as hygiene kits to provide school nurses and to provide teachers with supplies like tissues, pencils, and cleaning wipes.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Nomination of new Chairperson – Suzanne Rutner nominated Gayle Ivy to be the Youth Advisory Board Chairperson. Seconded by Margaret Schufer. A vote was held and

passed unanimously. A discussion on the role of a chairperson was had. Ideas include the chairperson being involved in Youth Services events, creating meeting agendas, and serving as a liaison for the Cromwell community and the Town Council.

b. Summer youth programs - Sarah shared some of the summer programs offered at Cromwell Recreation, adding that recreation offers scholarships to be used for Camp Cromwell, or any recreation program throughout the year. She mentioned that the Cromwell Children's Coalition also offers scholarships and that both programs require an application and are available first come first serve. Sarah shared that the Salvation Army is offering a week of an overnight camp, Camp Connri, for only \$25. The deadline to apply is May 19. Sarah reported that the Middlesex Chamber of Commerce has a regional youth employment program for ages 14-21, that places youth in a field they are interested in. She added that the program will take up to 80 youth, they offer on-the-job coaching, but they do not provide transportation. The deadline to apply is June 2.

7. STANDING REPORTS

a. Youth Services - Sarah discussed current programs scheduled:

- Let's Get Organized for 6-8th graders and instructed by Stretch Pediatric.
- Money Management Workshop for adults that is in collaboration with Human Services.
- Exploring the Genderverse has been rescheduled to Tuesday, May 9 because of a conflict with the Harlem Wizards Game. Sarah asked for help getting the word out and Haley mentioned she would share with the CMS Unity Club.

Sarah concluded her report by sharing that she is the new Middlesex County Chapter Representative for the CT Youth Services Bureau Association. She explained that in this role she will run the monthly meetings, arrange for presenters to share at the meetings, and assist new directors in the chapter become acquainted with the association.

b. Town Council - Paula reported that at the April 6 Town Council meeting a resolution was passed to raise the Cromwell Middle School building project budget from approximately \$52 million to \$72.6 million. She added that on May 18 Cromwell will hold a town referendum at Cromwell High School from 12 AM - 8 PM, and if passed a new grant will have to be applied for. She also reported that the Town of Cromwell employee climate study is expected to be presented to the Town Council, and to the public by the end of April.

c. Police Department - Detective Tolton reported that Chief Deinse Lamontagne is retiring and that they are still short-staffed at the Cromwell Police Department. He also reported that the D.A.R.E. graduation is being reformatted. Some ideas he mentioned

were to have a specific day for students to celebrate, eliminate the number of outside guests, and have students read their D.A.R.E. essays to the 4th-grade class.

d. Youth - Haley reported that the CMS Unity Club is planning a dance for April 28 and that earlier in the year they focused on learning about black history month. Jason reported the number of days left until finals.

8. CITIZEN REPORT - No comment

9. FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORGANIZATION - Maggie reported that she will be playing with a band at Covenant Village at the beginning of June.

10. ADJOURN - A motion to adjourn was made at 7:52 PM by Margaret Schufer. Seconded by Gayle Ivy.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Tuesday, May 16, 202

Recording clerk, Jessica Zeedyk