

TOWN OF CROMWELL

Youth Advisory Board Tuesday, May 16, 2023 6:30 PM Town Hall Lower Level with Zoom option

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order by Suzanne Rutner at 6:32 PM.
Seconded by Maggie Schufer.

2. ROLL CALL – Sarah Maffiolini, Jessica Zeedyk, Gayle Ivy, Haley Stone, Suzanne Rutner, Maggie Schufer, Detective Tolton, Payton Langdon, Lucas Langdon, and Caitlin Cook-O'Reilly (virtual).

3. APPROVE/AMEND AGENDA – A motion to approve the May 16, 2023 meeting agenda was made by Maggie Schufer. Seconded by Suzanne Rutner.

4. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES –

a. Prior Meeting: 4.18.2023 - A motion to approve the April 18, 2023 meeting minutes was made by Suzanne Rutner. Seconded by Maggie Schufer.

5. OLD BUSINESS

a. Recruiting new members – Sarah reported that Cromwell Youth Services attended the ECS/WIS PTO Family Fun Night on 5/12/23 and reached many families in the community. Gayle suggested recruiting for membership at the upcoming Family Plant Night.

i. YAB shirts and group photo - The Youth Advisory Board members in attendance collected their shirts and a group photo was taken. It will be used to promote the board, recruit new members, and show the community who we are.

ii. Outreach dates

1. Summer Concert Kick Off – 6/21 5:30 PM - Cromwell Youth Services will have a table set up for community outreach and will be hosting a face painter/balloon artist.

2. Farmer's Market – 6/30 4:00 PM - Cromwell Youth Services is hosting Hidden in a Plain Sight, providing education on youth drug abuse prevention.

3. Farmer's Market – 7/14 4:00 PM- Cromwell Youth Services has arranged for the Change the Script van to be in attendance. The van is

provided by Connecticut Clearinghouse, offering prevention, mental health, and addiction information.

4. End of Summer Concert – 7/23 5:30 PM - Cromwell Youth Services will have a table for community outreach and will be hosting a face painter/ balloon artist. The date on the agenda is incorrect, the correct date is 8/23.

b. Cromwell Community Center letter of support – Gayle presented the final draft of the letter and it was signed by the board members in attendance. There are members not in attendance who still need to sign it. Gayle will reach out to them. A discussion was had by the group as to who would read the letter at the next Cromwell Town Council meeting.

c. Girl Scout project – Gayle asked the board to make a decision on what to request from the Girl Scout Troop in town who offered to make a donation to Cromwell Youth Services. She reminded the group that the Girl Scouts would like to donate physical items, or kits that they could assemble at a troop meeting. She listed off ideas discussed at the last meeting including, hygiene kits, supplies for teachers, and counselor care packages. The group decided on requesting hygiene kits. There was a brief discussion on how to distribute the kits. Suggestions from the group included providing the kits to principals, school counselors, gym teachers, and school nurses for them to distribute at their discretion.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Review bylaws – Sarah provided copies of the Cromwell Youth Advisory Board bylaws found by Suzanne. Gayle presented various sections of the bylaws for review. There was a discussion by the board on how to possibly amend these bylaws. The following changes will be voted on at the next meeting.

- Membership - The board found they are lacking in membership according to the by-laws, specifically in having a representative from Cromwell Public Schools. There was a discussion on how and who to recruit to fill that position.
- Membership Attendance and Quorum - There was a discussion about member attendance. Suzanne suggested amending bylaw 5e, from members “shall” to members “may” be asked to resign if they miss 3 consecutive meetings.
- Gayle suggested amending the quorum requirement to “majority”.
- Nominations of Officers - Gayle read off the roles of the Youth Advisory Board Officers. The President is Gayle Ivy, the Secretary is Jessica Zeedyk, and Gayle nominated Maggie Schufer for Vice President. Seconded by Suzanne.
- Gayle presented that according to bylaws the last meeting must take place prior to June 30. A vote for officers will be on the June 20, 2023 meeting agenda.

7. STANDING REPORTS

- a. Youth Services – Sarah reported that the Money Matters financial planning workshop ran on May 1 and had about a dozen attendees. She added that Cromwell Youth Services will have the presenter back for a teen workshop. Exploring the Genderverse had 12 people sign up. She commented on the presenter being excellent and adjusting to make an intimate and informative presentation. She concluded by reporting she and Jess are working on summer event planning and planning for the next school year.
- b. Town Council – No report.
- c. Police Department – Det. Tolton reported that starting July 3 Capt. Sifodaskalakis will be taking over for Chief LaMontagne upon her retirement. He added that CPD is still short staffed and he is being assigned back to patrol from the end of June through mid-August. He reported on an incident at Cromwell Middle School that involved a threatening message that resulted in the Secure School protocol. He added that it was an isolated incident, everyone is safe, and there is no public or school threat. Det. Tolton reported he is the lead on the end-of-year D.A.R.E. graduation. He concluded his report by letting the board know that retired Cromwell Police Captain Kevin Vandersloot is filling in as security for all Cromwell Schools while SROs are on patrol.
- d. Youth - Haley reported that CMS was having SBAC testing during the lockdown. Det. Tolton explained that during a Secure School students and teachers are asked to stay in their classrooms till police deemed them safe.

8. CITIZEN REPORT - Haley reported that the Cromwell Middle School band will be marching in the Cromwell Memorial Day Parade. Payton added that the Cromwell High School band would also be marching.

9. FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORGANIZATION - Maggie reported that her band will be playing on June 9th at 3:00 PM in the Covenant Living Event Center. Det. Tolton invited everyone to the D.A.R.E celebration.

10. ADJOURN- A motion to adjourn was made at 7:33 PM by Maggie Schufer. Seconded by Suzanne Rutner.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Tuesday, June 20, 2023 at 6:30PM

Recording clerk, Jessica Zeedyk