

Madison Youth and Family Services Board  
Minutes January 3, 2012

In attendance: M. Cohn, S. Hoffman, R. Klaskin, C. Richer-Fanelli, L. Favre, J. Friedman, A. Symonds,  
K. Dess, M. Lorenz, D. Buller, J. Walker, M. Catucci, A. Wilkins  
Staff: D. Melillo, L. Castrilli, C. LeVasseur  
Absent: L. Hagan, Chief Drumm

**I. Meeting opened at 7:08 pm and introductions were made.**

**II. Approval of December 6, 2011 minutes**

Motion to approve the minutes from December 6, 2011 was made by K. Dess and seconded by M. Lorenz.. Motion accepted.

**III. Staff Update-Catherine LeVasseur-Drug Trends**

Catherine gave a power point presentation on Drug and Alcohol trends. (see attached)

There was a discussion on how and where the students get the drugs.

- Catherine would like to do a different presentation to the students on the effects of all the products.
- Drug Trends Presentation to the PTO/PRC is scheduled in March to educate the parents.
- Survey results will be presented to the community on Feb. 6, 2012.

**IV. Student's Report**

- Just getting back from vacation.
- Football team won State Championship
- Winter show was "It's A Wonderful Life"
- Spring musical will be "Legally Blonde"

**V. Correspondence**

- Received an email from Joan Walker informing the Board that she was elected to the Board of Selectman, so she must resign from Madison Youth and Family Services Board but will be the Board of Selectman liaison.
- Taffy received a thank you note from Yale School of Medicine, Child Study Center thanking her for the contribution of books that were donated. They are given to children with chronic illness. This is a Peer Advocate project that they have done in the past few years.

**VI. Treasurer's Report**

Motion was made by K. Dess and seconded by M. Lorenz, to approve the following donations:

- \$100.00 donation from Maureen Brown for Social Services.
- \$25.00 donation from Pamela & Stephen Rottier for Social Services.
- \$25.00 donation from Susan & Herbert Burstein in honor of Dr. Martin Sklaire's birthday.
- \$75.00 donation from Nancy Gladstone in honor of the Gladstone Family.
- \$120.64 donation from Mr. Michael Toohey from United Way Annual Campaign.

Unanimously approved.

S. Sadowski and C.J. Gladstone left the board and the Board wants to send them a thank you for all the years that they served.

Three people have contributed to the Sunshine Fund. It goes toward Staff Appreciation breakfast and gifts for board members who leave. See Stephanie if you have any questions.

**VII. Discuss the idea of an effort to get churches and the Temple to help with heating costs.**  
Joan Walker would like to see if we can get the Temple and churches to help with contributions for clients who are in need of help with heating costs since the state and federal budget cut the amount that they will be helping with.

There was a lengthy discussion on how to go about this. Joan Walker will draft a letter to be sent to churches and the Temple and also a letter to be sent into Patch to ask residents for help. The weather hasn't been too cold up until today so the need hasn't been overwhelming yet , there are a lot of cold weather months left.

## **VIII. Director's Report**

### **A. Student Survey**

- Results will be presented to the Board of Selectman, Board of Finance, Board of Education, Police Commission and this Board on Tuesday Jan. 31, 2012 at 7 pm in the Hammonasset Room.
- February 6, 2012 the survey results will be presented to the general public.
- Anita Rutlin met with Catherine LeVasseur and Lori Lodge to request a presentation to the Middle and High School staff on the survey results.

### **B. Other**

- Scott Cochran is now Associate Director of MYFS. The Town is focusing on continuity and having someone groomed to take over.
- We lost 2 part time therapist so we are behind on case load and have money from the Youth Services Bureau grant that we are looking to use for a new parenting program for divorced parents starting in the next six months.
- MYFS and FOMY are co sponsoring a new youth development program working with wood. We are trying to find a program for kids that are harder to reach.

## **IX. Update on Friends of Madison Youth**

Jan. events

- High School dance on Friday.
- Jan. 13<sup>th</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> grade dance.
- Jan. 14 7<sup>th</sup> grade dance.
- Jan. 15 Superbowl commercials for grade 5 to high school.
- Jan. 28 Winter Wipeout- 2 hour sessions advertising through Patch .com and backpack express.

Feb. events

- Feb. 4 airing of commercials.

## **X. Executive Committee meeting time**

Executive Committee met after the meeting was adjourned to set time for next years meetings. They will meet the last Tuesday of the month at 4:30 pm.

Art Symonds would like to have an organizational chart on how Madison Youth and Family Services and Friends of Madison Youth are connected.

## **XII. Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 pm was made by M. Lorenz and seconded by S.Hoffman. Motion approved.