

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

Meeting Date: May 10th, 2022

7pm

Meeting Place: Surf Club

Madison Youth and Family Services Minutes

David Buller, Chairperson, called the meeting of 5-10-22 to order at 7:04. Also in attendance were: B. Skudder, R. Wahl, S. Murphy, J. Yorke, K. Dess, J. Rogers, and MYFS staff: C. Depietro, S. Cochran, and M. Fahey. Also in attendance was invited guest: L. Heflin.

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Welcome—David Buller, Chairperson.
 - D. Buller welcomed everyone to the beautiful Surf Club as the venue for tonight's meeting.
 - D. Buller announced that the Board would be unable to vote on anything as there was not a quorum in attendance.
 - All board members who were unable to make the meeting had emailed in advance of the meeting.
3. Approval of minutes from April 12, 2022. Motion to be made at the next board meeting when quorum present.
4. Public Comment—None
5. Correspondence—None

OLD BUSINESS

6. Status update on budget and special projects
 - S. Cochran reminded the board that the additional request to regrade the School-based Clinicians and Parent Support Counselor to include a grade for licensed and a grade for unlicensed, pending approval by the BOS.
 - The Job Evaluation Committee has reviewed the approved job descriptions; on for the next BOS meeting following the budget referendum vote on 5/17/22.
 - S. Cochran reported he has submitted the application for ARPA funds to fund the salary differential of the part-time Parent Support Counselor position to make it full-time position.

NEW BUSINESS

7. Treasurer's Report – Andrea Aron

- a. Motion to approve a \$2,000 donation from the Exchange Club to be used for camp scholarships.
 - o Motion to be made at the next board meeting when a quorum is present.

8. Recognition of Neighbor 2 Neighbor (with Laurie Heflin)

- D. Buller introduced L. Heflin of Neighbor 2 Neighbor by acknowledging the many times that the MYFS board votes to approve a donation made by Neighbor 2 Neighbor.
- S. Cochran agreed and expressed his gratitude for the continued support of the work of MYFS in the Madison community.
- S. Cochran suggested that the next agenda item—the staff presentation by Cristal Depietro, social services coordinator begin as a way to truly understand the tremendous impact that L. Heflin and Neighbor 2 Neighbor has in meeting the needs of the Madison community.
- L. Heflin acknowledged the partnership with MYFS and thanked C. DePietro and team for the work done to help those in need in Madison.

9. Staff Presentation—Social Services Coordinator, Cristal DePietro

- C. Depietro shared that prior to March 2020, social services assisted 94 families/households. Currently MYFS serves 206 families/households.
- Approximately 24% of those households receive recurring assistance/case management from MYFS.
- 25% of those households receive Energy Assistance through CRT (Community Renewal Team).
- Neighbor 2 Neighbor provided MYFS clients for emergency fuel assistance \$6,951 in this fiscal year.
- Food gift cards totaling \$9,200 were given to MYFS clients in this fiscal year for emergency food assistance/food insecurity; of that amount, Neighbor 2 Neighbor provided \$8,000.
- Brown and Polson school families, as well as Neighbor 2 Neighbor, donate gift cards to MYFS clients during the holidays.

- Neighbor 2 Neighbor also provides discretionary funds that help clients pay urgent necessities such as crucial repairs.
- Neighbor 2 Neighbor funded a short-term housing subsidy pilot program for domestic violence survivors in 2020.
- Also in 2020, Neighbor 2 Neighbor provided MYFS with \$110,000 to help families during the pandemic through the MYFS COVID IMPACT Program.
- C. DePietro listed the following organizations as community partners:
 - The Rotary Club (Warm the Children program)
 - Madison Police Department/Toys for Tots
 - The Exchange Club
 - The Jaycees
 - The Salvation Army
 - Temple Beth Tikvah
- C. DePietro discussed the lack of affordable housing being experienced by many clients on the Shoreline.
- C. DePietro discussed the problem of food insecurity experienced by many MYFS clients.
- C. DePietro explained that new clients need to present some documentation to verify their income.
- L. Heflin, when asked about increasing costs for food, gas and oil, believes that Neighbor 2 Neighbor has funds to meet these needs.
- L. Heflin shared the history of the Madison Foundation and Neighbor 2 Neighbor.
- L. Heflin discussed her role as a fundraiser for the Madison Foundation and Neighbor 2 Neighbor and does not expect to see a decrease in donations made to that organization.

10. Student Report –Rebe Wahl

- R. Wahl discussed the meeting held with Principal Salutari as D. McMahon was unable to be here.
- R. Wahl discussed the Jr/Sr assemblies to be held before the Jr/Sr Proms.

- R. Wahl discussed the improvement in social/emotional concerns; though she stated that the competition among students is very high and continues to be a problem.
- R. Wahl reported on a conversation with Principal Salutari where he encouraged a change in the heightened levels of competition through a student-led initiative.
- Board members discussed the difference between coping and changing the culture; and how one defines success and how that relates to the college process.
- R. Wahl updated the board on the student advisory council which will be in place for next year.

11. Director's Report – Scott Cochran, Director

- S. Cochran gave an update on the Madison Police Department Social Work Intern Pilot Program.
 - S. Cochran shared that 38 people have been identified since 4/4/22 as interacting with the police and needing follow-up by the social work extern.
 - S. Cochran reminded the board that the social work externship program will end in May and a report will be available shortly thereafter.
 - S. Cochran indicated that T. Torello, the social work intern, has worked with adults, seniors, and youths.
 - T. Torello is organized and has received positive feedback from those she has reached out to.
 - J. Yorke emphasized that the Police Accountability Act currently requires towns to review options regarding having a social worker available; eventually towns may be required to have social work services integrated with their PDs.
 - S. Cochran acknowledged the partnership with MPD and how great it is to work with J. Yorke.
- S. Cochran reported that MYFS is transitioning between wrapping up the school year programs and getting ready for summer programming.
- S. Cochran reported the mental health needs of students at the schools continues to be very high, particularly DHHS

- S. Cochran shared that the next board meeting on 6/7 will be brief and will adjourn to an informal Board/Staff social gathering; MYFS staff will also be invited.
 - S. Cochran discussed the increase in clinical sessions; 383 more sessions than last year.
 - S. Cochran reported that clinical revenue is now at approximately \$100,000 for the FY, representing a milestone for MYFS. Clinic revenue helps to offset the costs of services.
12. Liaison Report
- J. Yorke stated that his updates were included in S. Cochran's report on the Madison Police social work extern.
 - J. Yorke is grateful for the existing relationship between MPD and MYFS.
13. Chairperson Comments – David Buller, Board Chair
- D. Buller applauded S. Cochran and MYFS staff for the Awards Banquet held in April.
14. Open Discussion—Board members encouraged to ask questions, provide input.
- None.
15. Adjournment—Meeting was adjourned at 8:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Molly Fahey
Administrative Assistant,
Madison Youth and Family Services