

## SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

Meeting Date: September 13, 2022

7:00 pm

Meeting Place: Memorial Town Hall

### Madison Youth and Family Services Minutes

David Buller, Chairperson, called the meeting of 9-13-22 to order at 7:07. Also in attendance were: B. Skudder, R. Wahl, J. Yorke, J. Rogers, G. McGrimley, K. Rasimas, C. McGrady, T. Rizzo, A. Aron, K. Dess, S. Snyder, C. Maisano, R. McMillian and MYFS staff: S. Cochran, and M. Fahey.

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Welcome—David Buller, Chairperson.
  - D. Buller welcomed everyone and asked everyone to introduce themselves.
3. Approval of minutes from June 7, 2022. Motion made by B. Skudder and seconded by J. Rogers; R. McMillian C. McGrady, C. Maisano, S. Snyder, K. Dess abstained. Motion approved.
4. Public Comment—None
5. Correspondence—M. Fahey read a thank you note from Griffin Hospital and another thank you note from a Senior Citizen who had students from the Community Service Program help with yard work this summer.

#### NEW BUSINESS

6. MYFS Board Overview
  - S. Cochran encouraged the board to read the Director's Reports and to ask questions and make suggestions regarding the information.
  - S. Cochran shared that Madison Youth and Family Services became a YSB (Youth Service Bureau) in 1983 and the importance of that designation as it relates to policy and grants that are available.
  - S. Cochran reviewed the packet given to each board member entitled "Getting on Board."
  - Packet is attached to these meeting minutes.

- S. Cochran reviewed board meeting dates and received input from the board to confirm dates for meetings from January 2023 through June 2023; meeting dates are as follows:
  - January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023
  - February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023
  - March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023
  - April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023
  - May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023
  - June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023

#### 7. Treasurer's Report – Andrea Aron

- a. A. Aron asked for donations for the sunshine Club and explained for new members how money is typically used.
- b. Motion to approve a \$1,000 donation of Stop and Shop gift cards from Neighbor-2-Neighbor was made by A. Aron and seconded by K. Dess.
  - On behalf of the MYFS Board, D. Buller thanked Neighbor-2-Neighbor for this donation and for their continued support.

#### 8. Student Report – Trip Rizzo and Rebe Wahl

- R. Wahl discussed the positive atmosphere at DHHS since the start of school.
- T. Rizzo, a current junior, reminded the board that COVID occurred at the end of his 8<sup>th</sup> grade year; so this academic year (22-23) will hopefully be the first 'normal' year in high school.
- R. Wahl and T. Rizzo are considering their options as the MYFS Board Student reps to identify a project/issue that needs attention at DHHS.
- R. Wahl continued the conversation about her desire to reduce stress related to academic "competition" among students at DHHS.
- R. Wahl also discussed continuing the work of D. McMahon and K. Beiner with the pledge by sports teams against sexual assault.

- R. Wahl discussed the importance of the pledge, but also the continued problems that students face with mental health and competition issues.
- R. Wahl and T. Rizzo will set up a meeting with the new Athletic Director.
- R. Wahl and T. Rizzo will begin monthly meetings with Principal Salutari.
- R. Wahl and T. Rizzo shared their experience of adjusting to the presence of armed security officers at school, and that their comfort level benefitted from the communication between the administration and the students.
- T. Rizzo discussed the difference between Student Leadership, Student Advisory Groups, and Captains' Council.
- R. Wahl led a discussion on Peer Advocate Alumni meetings and how to develop programming for training group reunions.

#### 9. Director's Report – Scott Cochran, Director

- S. Cochran discussed the role of the new Student Advisory Groups at DHHS.
  - Student Advisory Groups will meet weekly to discuss social/emotional issues.
  - All student requests were input and an algorithm was used to create each group.
  - Student Advisory Groups will have 2 leaders who will be nominated by the group, or who will self-identify to be trained.
  - Training for the group leaders will be over 2 separate days in November.
  - MYFS is collaborating with DHHS to develop the training curriculum and helping to facilitate the training itself.
- S. Cochran announced that 2023 is the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Madison Youth and Family Services.
  - S. Cochran shared the Board/Staff Enrichment meeting will likely focus on the last 40 years and will likely include invitations to some previous employees.
- S. Cochran discussed the 2 committees being formed for the Academy Community Center:
  - The Academy Community Center Building Committee.

- The Academy Community Center Advisory Committee.
- S. Cochran is on the Academy Advisory Committee and has been asked to have a MYFS Board member participate as a liaison on that committee.
- Please see S. Cochran if you would like to be considered as a liaison to offer suggestions and engage in conversation on that Academy Advisory Committee.
- The liaison position will not have voting rights.
- S. Cochran reminded the board that there are meetings and events where board members can show their support for MYFS.
  - B. Skudder will be preparing a Sign-up Genius for opportunities for the board to attend/participate in events with MYFS.

10. Liaison Report-TBD

- None

11. Chairperson Comments – David Buller, Board Chair

- D. Buller complimented everyone on their introductions and commented on how ‘impressive’ the group is.
- D. Buller reminded the board members of the importance of attending meetings and showing support to MYFS.
- D. Buller gave thanks to all the MYFS Board members for choosing to spend their time in support of the youth of Madison.

12. Open Discussion–Board members encouraged to ask questions, provide input.

- None

13. Adjournment—Meeting was adjourned at 8:44pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Molly Fahey  
 Administrative Assistant,  
 Madison Youth and Family Services