

Madison County Youth Board Meeting Minutes
5:30 pm, Supervisors Conference Room, 2nd Floor
County Office Building, Wampsville
November 5, 2013

Members:

Jill Moore, Donna Cashman, Bud Ballinger

Staff:

Joanne Eddy and Tina Louis

The meeting was called to order at 5:37 p.m.

1. Motion to approve Minutes:

A motion was made to approve Minutes from the October 1, 2013 Youth Board Meeting by Jill. Seconded by Donna, all approved.

2. 2014 Funding Update:

OCFS will consider 2014 a transition year with respect to the new Youth Development Program funding. The regulations will not be done until sometime in 2014. For planning purposes, Youth Bureaus are to look at the 2013 allocations before the state legislature voted to give an increase; therefore we are looking at 2013 without the 1.5 percent add-ons. Upstate counties should then expect an additional 2 percent off that amount. This is because 2014 allocations are being based on youth per capita numbers, which would mean that 55% of the funding would go to New York City unless OCFS put a cap on how much Counties/NYC could gain or lose. The interim solution being recommended is that no one be impacted more than 2 percent.

With those calculations in mind, Madison County would still have more available funding than this year because we are no longer required to provide an entitlement to municipal recreation programs, so that money is added to the pot. We would still be \$7,000 to \$8,000 ahead of what we had in 2013. If the legislative add gets put back in it would give us a little more. OCFS will try to get allocation numbers to us before the end of the year. With this information in mind, Joanne would like to move forward to try to get the 2014 RFP out.

3. Bidders Informational Meeting for 2014 Funding:

In order to move forward with the RFP process, Bidders informational meetings have been scheduled for **December 3rd, 10:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.** in order to explain the new Youth Development Program funding and RFP format. We are revising the proposal package and inviting not for profits and municipal recreation programs to attend one of the sessions, at which time we will go through the RFP package so everyone understands the new requirements and our expectations. Joanne will strongly recommend to current funded programs that they attend a session. This is the same day as the next scheduled Youth Board meeting. It would be beneficial to those Youth Board members who can to attend the 3:30 p.m. session. If needed, we can hold a Youth Board meeting right after the session ends – at approximately 5:00 pm. This will allow Youth Board members to hear what agencies are being told and will allow us to hold a Youth Board meeting immediately after, rather than waiting to 5:30.

OCFS has entered into a contract with the Results Leadership Group for 2014 to work with Youth Bureaus to develop common measures for reporting data in each of the Touchstones Life areas. This will continue the work that the Association of NYS Youth Bureaus started with the Results Leadership Group last year to develop common measures for after school programs, mentoring and RHY programs. Joanne is very optimistic that Madison County will continue as one of the counties involved in the development of the common measures.

4. Safe Place for Youth Program Update:

Liberty Resources has provided a written 60 day notice of intent to terminate the Safe Place program effective December 31st. A letter from the Executive Director, Carl Coyle, referenced that the decision was all about economics. Joanne met with the Vice President of Child and Family Services and the local supervisor of Safe Place who indicated that they did not want to give up the program, but the Executive Director did. The staff is willing to help in the transition to a new provider.

Catholic Charities has expressed tentative interest in taking over the program. Joanne has had multiple conversations this week with OCFS, e-mail exchanges with Catholic Charities, and has a meeting with the Executive Director of Catholic Charities and their Division Manager on Wednesday, November 6th to see if she can get a definite confirmation from them. If they agree to move forward with this we are able to contract with them to provide non-residential RHY case management services while they are working on obtaining OCFS agency and program certification. This would allow a smooth transition of youth currently receiving case management services from the Safe Place program. It has been over a year without a host home under Liberty anyway, so to maintain services currently active we can provide case management under Catholic Charities until they become authorized to provide the full service. The Youth Board can fund Catholic Charities with the money Liberty Resources is getting now to do case management without being certified. Catholic Charities ran a runaway and homeless youth program from 1998 to 2003 so they have the capacity to do it again.

Donna asked how many youth are currently actively involved in Safe Place. Joanne is not sure at this time, but knows that Liberty held onto some kids longer than they needed to. She stated she has now until the end of December to determine who needs to continue and who can safely be terminated from the program. Joanne was informed by OCFS that as the RHY Coordinator she must be the keeper of all Safe Place records and keep them for seven years as well as submit a plan of how the records will be maintained.

Bud asked if the program would stay with the Safe Place name. Joanne replied that she would recommend they stick with it as we already have sites established, plus the stickers/campaign. It will be up to Catholic Charities to decide as there is a cost associated with being part of the national Safe Place organization, which allows you to use the name and logo.

Donna asked if we needed a motion in January for the program to start. Joanne said that a motion might be necessary as early as the December meeting. If this becomes the case, it will be crucial to have a quorum in December. The Social and Mental Health Services Committee meets December 23rd to get the end of year business done, so to be on the agenda for the January Board of Supervisors we will need a motion at our December Youth Board meeting.

Joanne will keep people informed, as things are moving quickly and changing daily. We would need to have a Youth Board meeting immediately following the 3:30 p.m. Bidders session on December 3rd and vote at that time.

5. Members with Terms Expiring on 12/31/13:

The following members terms are expiring; Ron Cary, Lisa Reeves, Dawn Post, Jill Moore, and Bud Ballinger. The following have said yes to reappointment; Ron Cary, Lisa Reeves, Jill Moore. Dawn Post has not responded. Bud Ballinger is moving on to other things. Bud commented that he may not rule out a return in the future. Joanne thanked Bud for his years of service on the Youth Board. His presence will be missed.

Bud made the motion to approve the submitted names for reappointment to include Dawn if she accepts. Donna seconded. Motion approved.

6. Youth Development Specialist Report:

Tina reported that the Chittenango Leadership Group completed facilitation of teambuilding activities on October 24th for 5th Grade Day at Bridgeport and did an excellent job. She met with the Cazenovia Student Success Team and will be starting a Leadership Group at Cazenovia on December 4th. A student at Canastota had a very successful job shadow experience with DSS.

The second PQA observation at Church on the Rock has been completed with a meeting to review the final report and suggestions to be held on November 14th. Joanne commented that a common theme of all the observations has been the need for written policies and procedures to provide consistency and to help with staffing and orientation.

Tina presented a 'First Impressions' workshop to 18 male students in the auto body class at M-O BOCES this morning,. All the students participated well during the presentation. Tina also reported that she attended a Safe Talk Training on suicide alertness and a Darkness to Light training to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse.

7. Miscellaneous:

No items shared.

8. Next Meeting:

A quick business meeting will be held on **December 3rd right after the 3:30 p.m. Bidders Conference.** Joanne will send out the format for the final proposal. Joanne and Tina will be reviewing the current RFP and streamlining it.

Jill made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bud seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Tina Louis