

**Madison County Youth Board Meeting Minutes**  
**5:30 pm, Supervisors Conference Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**  
**County Office Building, Wampsville**  
**October 6, 2015**

**Members:**

Carol Musacchio, Cole Jackson, Jo Perkins, Kalila Lehner, Donna Cashman, Sharon Taylor, Jill Moore

**Staff:**

Joanne Eddy and Tina Louis

*The meeting was called to order at 5:34 p.m.*

**1. Approve Minutes from the June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015 and August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015 meetings:**

Motion made by Sharon to accept the June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015 minutes as presented; seconded by Carol; unanimously approved. Motion made by Kalila to accept the August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015 minutes as presented; seconded by Cole; unanimously approved.

**2. Director's Report:**

**Look Beneath the Surface Campaign – SEY/Human Trafficking Funding:** activities are well underway. Billboards with similar messages and different designs are posted on Route 5 and Route 20. Tomorrow is the first in a series of professional development trainings being offered with this funding. The trainer is Jim Bolas and he will offer *Recognize, Respect and Respond* to review the signs of sexual exploitation, what questions to ask a person, and what to do in response in a culturally sensitive way. Joanne shared she is please with registration as we were not sure at first if we would exceed 50, but did and added a repeat session for a second day. There is a wonderful cross representation of agencies, good response from school districts, and some law enforcement. People are craving information on the topic. There have been cases in Syracuse and Utica.

A second training will be offered October 29<sup>th</sup> with a focus on online sexual exploitation and trafficking. There is an excellent panel of speakers. Flyers were distributed. Registration will be accepted by the end of the week. The cutoff is 100 people. Donna asked if any farm organizations were attending due to the migrant population in the area to which Joanne responded unfortunately not.

PAC 99 will tape sessions to post to Jim Bolas' website, to run on PAC 99 and to have extra if anyone wanted to utilize it as training. Jo suggested we link to Jim Bolas' site.

PSAs have also run on local radio stations for the campaign. The funding will also be used to help support the RHY program, as RHY youth are at higher risk of being trafficked or exploited. Go bags are being bought and filled. SEY funds will also be used to purchase a limited # of minutes-only phones for RHY youth so that they can keep in touch with their case manager. New program brochures are also being developed and printed. The Youth Bureau partnered with Catholic Charities on this initiative as they are our RHY provider. They will handle the online registration for both trainings.

**Draft 2016 OCFS Program Outcome Measures:** NYS OCFS is trying to put together performance measures across all areas where Youth Bureaus would fund a program. Joanne distributed a draft of the final project. There are 33 areas; 10 of 33 are where we have consistently funded programs. Some would not apply to priority needs in this county. Different OCFS staff worked on different areas so some formatting issues have not been cleared up yet. All measures are set up in the same format: how much (how many youth are being served), how well (how well are the programs doing), better off (are youth better off by having participated in the program). The understanding is that programs only have to address one in each area. Joanne suggested we be as flexible as possible in program measures. These measures represent the bare minimum programs would be required to track. Programs may decide to track additional outcomes relevant to their programs above and beyond what OCFS is

requiring. For example, CAP tracks some outcomes that appear in the document, but they also track others. This goes into effect for 2016 programs. The document will be cleaned up with consistent language, but OCFS is not going to change any outcomes.

Joanne would like to get the 2016 RFP out in early December and these outcomes need to be included. Joanne will look at the 10 that apply across the board of what we usually see. The RFP also needs to address issues related to the TAP survey. For example, based on TAP results substance abuse prevention is needed that targets the high school population only. The RFP will be specific in language with respect to TAP with prevention and intervention for specific populations. For example, mental health programs could be targeted and then open up proposals for recreation. Jo asked about timeline. Joanne stated the RFP would go out in December with a deadline of mid-January. It could go out late November. Joanne is tossing around the idea of holding informational meetings to walk through the differences. The outcomes have been built in over the last few RFPs. Joanne foresees having an information session and releasing the RFP then, probably the first week in December. She is getting calls from bigger recreation departments as they know Hamilton is getting funding, so the others are interested in finding out how to apply. Joanne will work on something more manageable than the full document to share with interested parties.

**Exploring County Government Program:** Joanne shared that the Youth Bureau is developing a new government program called *Exploring County Government*. This would replace the current Local Government Intern (LGI) program that the Youth Bureau partners with Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) on. This partnership developed due to the many staff turnovers that CCE has experienced over the past couple of years to the point that they could no longer run the LGI program without assistance from the Youth Bureau. It has taken a lot of time to train the CCE staff. The Youth Bureau will do the spring *Exploring County Government* session alone. During this semester's LGI program we are trial testing many programmatic changes and educational additions for our spring program.

Two students dropped out of the current semester's LGI program after the first session. There are eight Cazenovia and four Oneida High School students enrolled. Oneida had been absent from the program since 2008, but was offered a reminder by the Youth Bureau about the program and students are involved this round. The exciting piece is that through talking with school districts regarding exploration of how credit is or is not offered it was suggested by Morrisville Eaton Central School's principal that we should explore whether the program would be eligible for college credit. He shared that certain districts partner with MVCC for dual credit and he felt after looking at the program materials that it was worthy to be certified for college credit. He also shared that there is a plan among some of the rural districts to try to graduate a certain population with Associates degrees. He also thought that shared busing would be a possibility if the program was eligible for dual credit which would alleviate students having to drive themselves, especially in bad weather months, as busing is only available through Cazenovia at this time. Joanne and Tina had a first meeting with MVCC's Director of Dual Credit and the more he talked the more excited he got about the possibility. This is a very nontraditional opportunity. We have included the use of iCivics this round, an online government education program developed through the National Association of Counties allowing students to play Counties Work to learn what it is like to be a supervisor. The Director of Dual Credit is interested in setting up a meeting with his Dean to determine what we would need to do to work out qualifications. The fall schedule was distributed so the board could see the content. If we can move forward with the dual credit it can be in effect by the spring program. It might fit into public policy, but would not apply to high school government class as it focuses on Madison County government not state or federal as is necessary for high school credit. The pre and post tests were designed to determine how well we have taught the material so they will help us determine areas that need adjustments. When asked how the program is being paid for Joanne stated that it is paid for through out time and that the only cost is to districts that provide busing.

### **3. Youth Development Specialist's Report:**

#### **ACT for Youth Program:**

- **Chittenango Leadership Group:** Group starts this week with Year 1 and Year 2 groups. A Year 1 recruitment/information session was held in June at the middle school. Of 33 students who attended 18 stated at the end of the session that they were definitely interested. Counselors are following up with this list this week. Counselors can also add names of students they feel could benefit who are not included on the list. For Year 2 all students who have completed any Year 1 were invited to attend. Year 2 is focused on service. Hopefully the open invitation will build the group up in numbers.
- **Cazenovia Leadership Group:** 10 students were present for the first session of Year 1. It will be challenging to hold a Year 2 group due to students' schedules. The best option at this time is to combine events with Chittenango so students can stay involved, but a meeting time for Cazenovia would be difficult. Tina will continue to work out options.

#### **PQA Observations:**

- **Canastota Public Library Ready, Set Robotics** underwent an observation on July 29<sup>th</sup> and a meeting was held with Beth Totten to review findings. Although the program continued into fall on a more limited basis for students who wanted to continue to meet, only one observation was done as the summer program format was what was being funded under the Youth Bureau. Overall the program did very well in scoring. Joanne and Tina offered suggestions for improvement. Beth had reviewed student surveys and has come up with a list of improvements she would like to make for the future. She is currently offering Saturday Robotics meetings for interested youth.
- **Great Swamp Conservancy Junior Birders Program** underwent an observation on June 10<sup>th</sup> and will have its next observation on November 4<sup>th</sup>. They also did very well in scoring. Once the second observation is completed a meeting will be held to review the average scores for the PQA.

### **4. Next Meeting – November 3, 2015 (if there are sufficient agenda items):**

Sharon made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jo seconded.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

**Respectfully Submitted by Tina Louis**