

Oak Park Township
Youth Services Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 3rd 2013

In attendance: John Williams, Danielle Valdes, Ann Pepper, Dick Barrett, George Bailey, Bob Giles, Jim Fitch, Pat Bowman, Judy Crivolio, Tom Bilyk, Marge Trybus, Veronica Belmonte.

John called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m. (Chair was delayed)

Bob motions to accept February minutes, Ann seconds- all in favor. Minutes pass unanimously. There were no March minutes due to contractor meet and greet held during last month's usual committee meeting time slot.

Director's Report:

This year's youth conference was canceled due to weather conditions. OPRFHS cancelled all school field trips for the day, and Trinity was closed for the day due to snow. Sponsors were not able to reschedule.

Fiscal year budgeting has started and is looking similar to last year's budget. The additional funds from the levy will be expended on raises in insurance, workman's compensation, etc. Possible 3% raise in salary, 2% for cost of living, 1% merit based.

Board approved \$10,000.00 for the mentoring initiative with Rotary. Rotary gave \$4,500.00 towards the goal. Community Bank donated \$1,000.00. John is planning a mentoring/anti-violence awareness meeting May 30, 31st and June 1st. Sixty-two Rotary clubs were invited to bring 2 members. Unsure what the turn out may be at this point. John is hoping to host at CUC.

CACREP came and met with John regarding CUC's programs, his meeting went very well. He also was an MC for a CUC honors award dinner which also went well.

Fiscal year is mostly wrapped up with only a few bills pending.

The interventionists are working more at OPRFHS due to an escalation in fighting, disrespect to faculty and staff and other students. The high school has also had a new head of security start this month.

Liaison Report:

RF: Many Committees in River Forest are looking for members- most in need right now are members for the Youth, Seniors, and Mental Health Committees. The elections are next Tuesday. Carla Sloan is running unopposed as new Township Supervisor. Veronica running as trustee after 19 years of service as Supervisor. They are also working on a new fiscal year budget. The annual meeting is coming up this month as well. They are also hosting many events this month in honor of Senior appreciation month.

Contract Requests:

Joint:

OPRFHS Summer School: Marge motions to fund at full request amount, Bob seconds. All in favor. Funded at \$3,000.00. Motivation: At risk youth are given a chance to access services which are good for providing structure and continuing the work which has been done throughout the school year.

OPRFHS Intramurals: Ann motions to fund at full request amount, Judy seconds. All in favor. Funded at \$19,087.00. Motivation: Helps keep students accountable for grades, works on team building skills, and consistency outside of the classroom.

Meditation Program: Tom motions to decline funding, Judy seconds. Jim abstains, motion passes. Committee would like to see this program work on its partner collaborations and revise budget before funding would be granted.

Operation Snowball: Marge motions to fund at full request amount, Ann seconds. All in favor. Funded at \$5,200.00. Motivation: The committee has seen follow through on requests for growth and other changes, Snowball is a consistently growing program which is consistently collaborating with other groups to maximize impact on youth.

Robo Dreams: Bob motions to decline funding, Ann seconds. Committee would like to see this program on a smaller scale, and with some possible collaborations with other programs to make funding more realistic.

OP Police Basketball Camp: Marge motions to fund at full request amount. Bob seconds. All in favor. Funded at \$1,300.00. Motivation: Creates collaboration and team building skill among youth and is a popular and growing program in the community.

Total Joint funded programs approved at \$28,587.00.

River Forest:

Isearch: Ann motions to fund at full request amount, Judy seconds. All in favor. Funded at \$7,750.00. Motivation: Isearch has a broad impact on school age children as an early intervention and safety instruction program for a youth population that is not well represented in programming.

Connections: Ann motions to fund at full request amount, Judy seconds. All in favor. Funded at \$7,858.00. Motivation: Promotes literacy in a safe space for the youth of the community.

Total River Forest funded programs approved at \$15,608.00.

Oak Park:

All programs below were motioned to be funded at specified amounts by Bob, Marge seconds. All in favor, motion passes to fund Oak Park programs at \$179,072.00. Breakdowns specified below.

JiM: Funded at \$10,680.00. Motivation: Committee appreciates the collaboration between Concordia University and Irving School which addresses multi-literacy in a lower performing school within the community.

Parenteen: Funded at \$17,000.00. Motivation: Strong leadership within program, track record of success. Addresses early literacy and parenting skills.

Scholarship Program: Funded at \$8,000.00. Motivation: Provides at risk youth with programming during the summer and gives opportunity for socialization.

Steckman Studios: Funded at \$18,000.00. Motivation: Effective outlet for at risk youth in the community. Builds skills in the arts.

Friday Night Place: Funded at \$46,353.00. Motivation: Successful record of commitment to the community and is a growing program.

School Daze: Funded at \$4,000.00. Motivation: The committee appreciates this program focusing on the arts in creative ways.

10th Hour: Funded at \$9,600.00. Motivation: The committee likes the collaboration between junior highs in the community, first new middle school program that is much needed.

Together We Can Programs:

Beye Boost: Funded at \$4,860.00. Motivation: Nice use of technology for learning outside of the classroom.

Hatch Tutor Mentor: Funded at \$7,700.00. Motivation: Provides at risk youth with access to homework help.

Homes Power of Partnership: Funded at \$19,210.00. Motivation: Expanding program which provides creative programming for at risk youth.

Irving Homework Helper: Funded at \$8,000.00. Motivation: Effective program using technology to provide skill building for youth.

Lincoln Media: Funded at \$6,192.00. Motivation: Tutoring in a rotation model initiative for youth.

Longfellow Homework Helper: Funded at \$3,392.00. Motivation: Program provides continued support with track record of improved test scores.

Longfellow Rainbows: Funded at \$1,210.00. Motivation: Provides group support for students dealing with loss, gives effective grief support.

Mann: Funded at \$4,545.00. Motivation: Provides safe setting for after school skill building.

Whittier Aces: Funded at \$4,920.00. Motivation: Program providing a strong focus on math and reading with collaborations between both.

Whittier Homework Helper: Funded at \$5,410.00. Motivation: Shows good measurement of improved test scores, showing successful results among youth.

Total Oak Park funding approved at \$179,072.00 motion passed, all in favor.

Motion to adjourn at 8:41.