

Youth Services Committee Meeting
May 10th 2017

Meeting called to order at: 6:52 p.m.

In Attendance: Pat B., John W., Anna S., Sarah M., Jhontia W., Wiley S., Natalie W., David Y., Dick B., George B., Ashley S., Willie M., Carol Y., Ade O.

Approval of last meeting's minutes: Motion to approve made by George B. Seconded by Willie M.

Public Comments (if any): None

Introduction of new members: The committee welcomed 4 new Oak Park members to the Youth Services Committee; Jhontia Williams, Natalie Williams, David Yamashita and Emily Dagostino. Three of the four were able to attend this evening's meeting and the committee spent some time introducing themselves and getting to know our new members.

Liaison Reports:

Oak Park: The new Township Board and Township Supervisor have officially been sworn in at the board meeting which took place on Tuesday, May 9. The budget, including all the recommendations for contract requests made by the Youth Services Committee, has been passed. The senate bill 3 was discussed again. Committee members discussed what they could do to get more involved in the conversation about why the Township and all the services they offer are so important. Members stressed the importance of reaching out to their own circle of contacts and other boards or groups they are members of, to inform and educate the community of all the benefits the Township has to offer. Because many members of the community do not know all the services that are available through the Township it is pertinent that more education be provided.

River Forest: No liaison report as RF Liaison was unable to attend the meeting.

Director's Report: After several meetings with D97, a plan is underway to conduct Cargo Peace Circles for next fall. Cargo Circles will run weekly from October – January for half of the 5th grade classes. After that, a wrap up and coaching session with the teachers will occur so that they can be prepared to continue running the circles themselves. The second half of the 5th grade classes will receive Circles from January – May. John plans to meet with two Professors who will help him recruit approximately 20 interns to help facilitate Cargo Peace Circles. Training for the facilitators will occur over the summer so that they are ready to kick off the school year.

The two new Township Youth Interventionists are approaching their 6 month mark and have been adjusting nicely. They are currently preparing for the school year to wrap up and to transition into the summer period with their clients.

Old Business: None

New Business: The committee reviewed a budget for the Summer Math and Reading Time (SMART) Program that is a collaboration between D97, Concordia and Fellowship Community Services. The SMART program is designed to engage 5th-8th grades who are struggling with attendance, attitude and academics. The program will take place at Julian Middle School from 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday. The Program will run for 5 weeks over the summer (June 19 – July 20). The partnership with Concordia is a great way to connect these Youth with a college.

Upon review of the budget, members felt that some adjustments could be made and are requesting some changes to the budget.

- Motion to fund at \$15,500.00 made by Carol Y. with a proviso that the number of coaches be reduced from 5 to 3 and eliminate the mentor trainings. Mentors from Concordia, FNP and Y.E.M.B.A. would be available so that the proposed mentors can learn through observation rather than a paid training. Eliminating this from the budget would reduce a duplication of services. Another advantage of this is that many of the mentors from FNP and Y.E.M.B.A. already have relationships with many of these youth.
- Motion seconded by Willie M.
- Motion passes unanimously

Meeting Adjourned at: 8:42 P.M.

Motioned by: Amy H.

Seconded by: