

Oak Park Township Youth Services Committee
October Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 1st 2014

In attendance: Pat B., John W., Danielle F., George B., Bob G., Tom B., Jim F., Mary C., Valerie W., Carla S., Anna S., Amy H., and Lynn H.

Call to order: 6:53 PM.

Motion to accept minutes: Tom, Anna seconds- motion passes unanimously.

Director's Report: The Intervention team is getting busier now that school is back in session. They have set up their space at the high school and are meeting with kids there regularly in spite of all the changes the high school is experiencing with administrative and structure changes.

The Team has been doing and is gearing up for more trainings around the community to show what services we offer and how they can help in various settings.

Rob is doing groups with 15 to 20 boys.

Melissa is spending more time in River Forest this school year and has started going to Trinity as well as the other schools. She is working on putting together groups for youth at Roosevelt as well.

Rotary has requested John do a presentation about peace circles and mentoring at the annual conference in November. Through Rotary's support 36 peace circle keepers have been trained, and John is hoping to continue with trainings.

John is also hoping to organize a "hootenanny" using art as a prompt for peace circles. He hopes that it will be a multigenerational conversation across the community which would culminate in the hootenanny event and some sort of art display.

Rotary is hosting a food truck rally on the 5th at Keystone Park, with events for youth and adults- live music, food, games, etc.

John & Stephen had a meeting at Hephzibah regarding peace circles that went very well, and they are hoping to get some of their staff trained in the next training session.

Stephen has about 50-60 kids coming to Motivational Mentoring, and they are all word of mouth referral as he hasn't done any kind of advertising for it.

John gave a presentation at Fenwick to nearly 300 families of incoming freshman about substance use/abuse that went well.

YES! Did well and finished strong, with 13 boys participating. Stephen is already looking ahead and preparing for next summer's session.

Face-It has 23 families currently and is going smoothly.
Susan is sending some TIME youth to work at the food truck rally.

Stephen and John are going to speak to Golden Apple people this weekend at the high school.

River Forest Liaison report: September was a big month for finances in River Forest going over their budget, audit, etc. Carla talked about the SAMHSA grant to the seniors board and they seemed interested in knowing more and giving insight where and if necessary. The township is also developing a pilot support group for siblings of youth with mental health or developmental issues. River Forest Township voted and approved funding for an IMPACT parent café which will take place on November 6th at Roosevelt. Carla met with Margaret from the River Forest Library and spoke about the Connections program and how they have altered the structure of the program in regards to how they schedule programming. There is a Youth Services Committee member opening which Carla is looking to fill.

Oak Park Liaison Report: The DHS/SAMHSA funding was approved for the state of Illinois so it is likely that the grant will be approved. The next phase in the process will begin in January. They are working on the Levy increase which would be about 2%. The Oak Park Township volunteer reception will be held at the zoo this weekend.

Jim F. will be resigning as committee chair- members need to be thinking of who they would like to nominate for that position. Jim has been chair for 14 years, the committee will be sad to see him go.

The November meeting will be dedicated to going over the FY16 contract process. Please make sure you are up to speed on all documents pertaining to the process which were emailed last month.

Motion to adjourn- Amy, seconded by Valerie. Motion passes, meeting adjourned at 9:03 PM.