

January Youth Services Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 9th 2013

In attendance: Veronica Krawczyk, Dick Barrett, Ann Pepper, Pat Bowman, Bob Giles, George Bailey, Bill Planek, Jim Fitch, Dorothy Reid, Carla Sloan, Margo Clayton, Danielle Valdes, and John Williams.

Called to order at 6:57 pm by Jim Fitch.

Motion to accept minutes by Pat B., Ann P. seconds. Motion passes.

Director's Report: John reported that the Holiday food & gift basket program served 911 houses, and just under 2,200 individuals in the community. He also reported that some families that need referral to this program are not getting that. Somewhere along the line there is a breakdown in communication. He said there are 50 families in District 200, 2 families in district 90, and 92 families in D97 that could have benefited from the program.

TIME has had 45 cases sent by River Forest adjudication since April, and that is going rather smoothly. There are still talks of Youth Services getting more involved with helping Oak Park in their adjudication process. Not much more settled in that regard.

Face-It had ended in December with 14 families that had participated for that cycle. Forest Park is interested in referring people to Face-It as well as Rosecrance.

Interventionists are doing well. John was subpoenaed in December regarding a past client and he took care of that. There have been a few DCFS calls as well. Melissa and John attended a conference on the topic of trauma. He felt this was timely since there have been a lot of trauma related referrals lately. John will also be attending "Spring Into Action" this Saturday which is a rotary sponsored event centered around peace initiatives. He is hoping to build mentoring programs centered around that between rotary clubs.

Next Wednesday is a parent empowerment night for the parents of kids who are in mentorship programs with the township.

John also has an interview with a possible intern from Concordia who may be able to help in many different areas.

The youth conference will be held on March 5th at Dominican University with the slogan; "Three Worlds Collide". John is working on helping find a keynote speaker for that event and the township will get the folders printed as they is done every year.

Jim Fitch asked about the job program and when we may see that up and running again. As of right now John said he does not think that will be reinstated until the next budget as money was shifted and the funds are no longer there. He is hoping to have it back come this summer.

Jim also asked about the status of the Salvation Army Promise program. John spoke about a few things on that topic- one being his work with Ann's house. The committee had some lively discussion on this topic.

Veronica gave her report on how things are going with the River Forest Township. She is preparing for the upcoming River Forest COG meeting this Friday and also working on the new budget. The levy was adopted with adding GA. Veronica will be stepping down this spring and Carla Sloan is running for her position as Township Supervisor.

Dorothy gave her report on Oak Park who also passed their levy. She also reported on the Township Board voting to make Stephen Jackson's position as Community Youth Advocate official. He is now a part time employee of the Township. She also talked of how the Township Board is hoping to see more detail in the program descriptions for the Youth Services Contracts this fiscal year.

There was talk regarding the Youth Services contracts and how the YSC would go over those. It was decided that we would move February's monthly meeting from the 6th to the 13th at 6:30. Then we will keep the March 6th meeting but move the time up to 6:30. If the committee does not have all the contracts reviewed and questions still linger there will be a third meeting on March 20th at 6:30 to finalize everything.

Ann motioned to adjourn and Dorothy Seconded, meeting adjourned.