

**Portland Youth Services Advisory Board
Regular meeting Tuesday, March 21, 2023**

Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:34 p.m.

Roll Call

Advisory Board: Michelle Donahue, Sara Donahue (phone), Anne Whalen (phone), Margaret Stewart

Absent: Erin Livensparger, Jennifer Mizner

Others: Jesse Revicki

Approve Minutes

Minutes of the last three meetings of the Youth Services Advisory Board were read and approved:

- September 27, 2022 – Michelle Donahue made a motion to approve, Margaret Stewart seconded; vote approved unanimously
- October 15, 2022 -- Anne Whalen made a motion to approve, Sarah Donahue seconded; vote approved unanimously.
- January 24, 2023: -- Anne Whalen made a motion to approve, Sarah Donahue seconded; vote approved unanimously.

Old Business:

A. Upcoming Event Planning

Michelle, Mike N from Economic Development, Jesse and Michelle from YSB, Karen and Chris from Park and Rec. discussed the planning of upcoming events.

Easter, April 1 there will be an Easter Egg Hunt at the new Recreation Park at 10:00 a.m. Youth Services and Prevention Council will set up tables. Anne Whalen and Sara will staff the YSB table. Michelle and Jesse will also be around.

Summer Kick Off: June 26 3:30-5:30. YSB members welcome to stop by.

Farm on Wheels, Ice Cream Truck, Library and Michelle will lead crafts, face painting, and a balloon clown. It will take place at the town green. This event was a big hit last year. Other groups such as Economic Development, Library, Park and Rec. will also be represented. It's helpful for YSB to have members around at these events to meet people so that we have a presence.

Halloween Festival: Saturday, October 21. Begins with a Road Race at Riverfront Park. There will be a food truck, music etc.

Memorial Day Parade is not an event that YSB takes an active role.

New Business:

Upcoming programs are posted on Facebook

-Little Hikers will begin again. It takes place the first Friday of the month and is geared for children under 5 years old.

-Began in March: LGBTQ drop in activity night on the first Wednesday of the month. Queer Teen and Parent Support Groups on the Third Wednesday of the month; these are two separate groups but they take place at the same time. All groups are 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Library.

-Intro to Dungeons and Dragons. Ages 8-10; five sessions in April and May from 5:00-8:00. Kids are signing up for this activity.

-Community Leadership Series: April 4, 11, 25. The series will begin on Zoom. It is for youth and adults.

- Looking Ahead: There is interest in running an intergenerational youth and adult bus trip to the Bronx Zoo. Still in the planning stages. A possible date is August 12.

Administrator's Overview:

- School Diversion Initiative (SDI), School staff are working on this plan. A survey is being put together for Chatham Court youth to see what types of activities they would like to have. Possible ideas are a baby sitting course, camp counselors course, the permit process for a driver's ed. course, cooking classes, retail training etc. More topics are being explored. The idea is to look at skill building that will prepare the youth for future jobs. This program is dependent upon the budget and getting mentors to sign up.

Jesse is looking into writing a grant from the Community Foundation for the Q Plus Facilitator for the LGBTQ+ group.

The Portland Budget will be voted on in late April or early May. Jesse's request for a part time social services support staff was cut but extra funds for other programs was left.

The Youth Service's Diversion Board training on Restorative Justice was very good.

Next meeting: May 23, 2023 at 4:30p.m.

Anne Whalen made a motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Sarah Donahue; vote approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret Steward, Advisory Board Secretary

Jesse Revicki, Youth & Family Services Administrator