

Minutes – Elmhurst Commission on Youth Meeting
June 11, 2018

Call to Order at 12:45pm.

In Attendance: Jackie Tamer, Marisa Mancini, Derek Schlager, Kim Brigman, Melea Smith, Jan DeCoursey, Bob Rasho, Mark Soehn, and Sharon Karpriel.

Absent: Patricia McKernan, Anne Zimmer, Joey Kalwat, Dan Corriagn, Nick Waldemeyer and Dannee Polomsky.

The April Minutes were approved.

Public Comment: Beverly Redmond, the new District 205 Executive Director of Communications and Public Relations, introduced herself. Effective July 1, 2018, Bev replaces Melea Smith, who will be retiring at the end of June following eight years of service in Elmhurst.

Bev will most likely replace Melea on the Youth Commission, and Gloria Walsh-Rock, the new Head of the Kids' Library at the Elmhurst Public Library, will apply to replace Sharon Karpriel, who is retiring from the Elmhurst Public Library on June 22, after 32 years of service. Jackie said that there would remain one more opening on the Commission, if Bev replaces Melea and Gloria replaces Sharon, because Annie Jaworska has resigned from the Commission after leaving Linden Oaks for a new job.

Youth Exemplary Service Awards: Jackie said that the Mayor liked the Awards ceremony, but had a suggestion. Many of the families present asked the Mayor to pose with their child for a photo. He said other people may have been shy about asking, so perhaps next year there could be a corner set aside for photos, to make it obvious that the Mayor was happy to do this. Jan DeCoursey suggested that we also ask Marisa Mancini or someone else from *The Independent* to attend and cover the event.

September / October Event: This may be a presentation / panel on drug addiction and mental health by Tim Ryan and Matt Quinn. We will ask York High School if they would like the presentation at school, but the school may not be able to arrange this.

In November, we plan to have a "big name" speaker on the topic of substance abuse / mental health or suicidality. The two speakers put forward by Jan DeCoursey are Tara Connor, the former Miss USA who had substance abuse problems. Her speaker's fee is \$5000 for one speech, \$8000 for two speeches, and \$750 for expenses. Commission members were asked to watch her TED Talk before the next meeting.

Another possible speaker is Ross Szabo, who speaks on mental health and suicide prevention.

Derek Schlager said he was asked by an Elmhurst parent if the Youth Commission could address child abduction to educate parents on ways to prevent it. The members talked about combining this topic with a program about safety, including social media and sexting.

Members were reminded that if we plan to hire a speaker for the fall, we need to get the expense approved by the Safety Committee in July.

Bob Rasho moved, and Mark seconded, that we designate an amount not to exceed \$10,000 to hire a speaker for the fall program on substance abuse / mental health / suicidality. Seven members voted yes, none opposed.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:40pm.

The next meeting will be August 20 – the *third* Monday in August.

For the August meeting, the Commission will need a laptop connected to the screen.