

**DRAFT
CITY OF NORWALK
YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 18, 2008**

ATTENDANCE: Candice Mayer, Norwalk Housing Authority; Jessica Fogg, Spinnaker; Betty Karkut, Human Services Council; Shirley Sarkin, Norwalk Board of Education (Ret.); Leona Williams, NEON Center at Nathaniel Ely; Rhonda Collins, Norwalk Health Department; Peter Wien, Chair (4:20 p.m.); Yamin Schaehter, Youth Member

STAFF: Linda Wilock, Youth Services; Karen DelVecchio, IT Director

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Meyer called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 14, 2008

**** MS. SARKIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 14, 2008**

**** MS. KARKUT SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS SUBMITTED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

UPDATE ON RECRUITMENT OF TEEN WEBSITES CONSULTANT

Ms. Wilock said that an issue had arisen over finding someone to work with the teens on the Norwalk Teen website. Ms. Wilock said that the Commission had also asked about the cost of a consultant averaged the State Website figures. Ms. Wilock said that she had received a call from the Department of Justice informing her that special permission is required when the fee is over \$57.00 an hour. Ms. Del Vecchio then explained in more details about this process and added that in reviewing the rates, she had not seen any consultant who had a fee less than \$75.00.

Ms. Meyer asked about recruitment would be used for the consultant. Discussion about the qualifications needed along with various suggestions about different groups to approach with this request followed.

BUDGET ISSUES

Ms. Wilock said that in her department, most of the budget is personnel. For Youth Services, the 3% cut that was requested by the Mayor came to \$10,000. Ms. Wilock said that she had one position that had not been filled for the After School Alliance, which she cut. Another staff was on maturity leave agreed to extend her return date for an additional month.

Mr. Wien joined the meeting at 4:20 p.m.

Ms. Wilock's secretary recently resigned and this position will be frozen for the time being. Ms. Wilock then explained the details surrounding the transfer of one part time employee into a Federally grant position. She went on to review the details of the budget and the funding sources.

Mr. Yamin Schachter, one of the Youth Member candidates, joined the meeting at 4:35 p.m.

INTRODUCTION OF YOUTH MEMBERS

The members of the Committee then greeted Mr. Schachter and introduced themselves to her. Ms. Wilock said that the group had not developed a job description for the youth participants. She then gave a brief description of the project for Mr. Schachter's benefit.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

Mr. Wien said that with his new job, it would be difficult for him to arrive by 4:00 p.m. since his company has relocated from Wilton to Bridgeport. Discussion then followed about possibly changing the time of the meeting.

Mr. Schachter suggested possibly mentioning this opportunity to "Young Leaders of Tomorrow" group that he attends. When asked if he uses any of the City parks, he mentioned two, Veteran's Park and one on Woodward Avenue. He said that the park on Woodward needed attention and that the basketball nets were gone, the tennis courts were all chipped. Ms. Wilock made a note of this to bring it to Mr. Moccia's attention.

Mr. Schachter then asked why a building that the youth had recently been demolished. Ms. Mayer explained that the removal of the building had been required by the City in order to expand some of the housing. Another building is being planned at the back of the property.

After a brief discussion, it was decided that the next meeting will be during the third week in January.

ADJOURNMENT

**** MS. SARKIN MOVED TO ADJOURN.**
**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Sharon L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services

