



**Tompkins County Youth Services Board
March 26, 2018**

**Present: Bernice Yarosh, Kathy Servoss, Pete Angie,
Barbara Sadovnic, Patty VandeBogart, Shawna Black**

Excused: Ronny Hardaway and Lisa Campbell

Staff: Francisco Paler-Large

Guest: Deb Mohlenhoff

Tompkins Youth Services Board Meeting
March 26, 2018

Meeting called to order at 5:08 pm Kathy welcomed everyone.

Updates:

- This month marks the 1 year anniversary of a community gathering where we declared that hate has no home here. We gathered after anti-Semitic graffiti was discovered on playground equipment at a local park. Community potlucks have been occurring on a monthly basis. They have been hosted at multiple locations and by community and interfaith representatives. Families come and it is fun. Open hearts open minds. Neighbors getting to know neighbors.
- Youth protest gun violence...local youth came up with their own vision of protest/walkout when they honored the 17 students killed last month. There was middle school and high school representation.
- Lansing Youth Services Annual Spaghetti Dinner is happening on April 13.
- Lansing Community Library, Lansing Loves to Read and the Lansing Historical Association are offering a Poetry Day in April.
- The Lansing Lions Club will be partnering with Lansing Loves to Read for another Summer of literacy enrichment opportunities for youth.

Minutes: Bernice moved to approve minutes, Patty seconded, approved.

Departmental Updates:

The Youth Services Board By-laws have hit a road block in going through the approval process at the Legislature. There is concern around the quorum it had been 1/3 of appointed representatives. We will move to have it as 1/2 of appointed representatives. An additional change was requested around the public meeting law. Shawna and Amie will continue to work on the changes requested by the legislators.

The Deputy Director posting is being submitted to Human Resources today. It will be posted for 35 hours though we are hoping for legislative approval for 40hrs. Amie will be asking members of the board to sit in on interviews

TCYSD is working with the Tompkins County Continuum of Care, Learning Web and Family & Children's Service to write a planning grant to HUD for a Runaway and Homeless Youth services. The grant will provide \$1 million to our community.

Board Goals for 2018:

Kathy reminded the board members that we are still recruiting board members. The seats that are open are: Danby, Caroline, City of Ithaca, Groton, Newfield, and at-large seats.

Understanding Our Why: Deborah Mohlenhoff

As a follow up to the work done around Advocacy at our retreat, board members were asked to view Simon Sinek's video about finding your why: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u4ZojKF_VuA

Members broke up into teams and discussed using the tribe approach to find our Why for working with youth services. Deb led the group through the following worksheets:

“People don’t buy what you do; people buy why you do it.”
—  Simon Sinek

FIND YOUR WHY – THE TRIBE APPROACH

1. WHY WHY?
2. Get to know your tribe – pair/triple up and share the following:
 - Think back to when you joined this organization. What inspired you the most? What inspires you to keep coming back? Take some notes.
3. The Golden Circle



The **WHAT** is your programs and services.

The **HOW** is things that make you different.

The **WHY** is about your contribution to impact and serve others.
4. Story Sharing: Form two groups. Each group needs to come up with:
 - When have you felt most proud working for this organization? DETAILS!
 - What was the specific contribution made to the lives of others? VERBS!
 - What did the contribution allow others to do or be?

DRAFT YOUR WHY STATEMENT!

Simon Sinek's WHY:
TO inspire people to do the things that inspire them
SO THAT together, we can change the world.

To _____ ↙ Contribution

so that _____ ↙ Impact

The first blank represents the contribution you make to the lives of others.
The second blank represents the impact of your contribution.

OUR WHY : _____

TO _____

SO THAT _____



**"A leader's job is not to do the work for others, it's to help others figure out how to do it themselves, to get things done, and to succeed beyond what they thought possible."
~ Simon Sinek**

We discussed **WHAT** the Youth Services Department does:

- Funds programs
- Provides training
- Supports agencies
- Researches young people
- Collects data
- Works with municipalities
- Creates publications
- Coordinates systems

We discussed **HOW** the Youth Services Department does this:

- Staffing resources
- Giving out funding
- Liaison

Then teams broke up into WHY we do what we do. The two groups worked on #4 of the worksheet. For the next board meeting all board members will:

- Work on the attached Tribe worksheet and be prepared to discuss their why statement.
- Remember it is not about what we do (fund agencies, train youth workers, fund municipalities) or how (use county resources, quality monitoring) it is about why we do it.

View:

<https://www.cnbc.com/2017/10/06/this-exercise-will-help-you-figure-out-what-to-do-with-your-life.html>

The meeting was adjourned at 6:24pm.

Submitted by Francisco Paler-Large