

Tompkins County Youth Services Board
Minutes
January 28, 2019

Present: Bernice Yarosh, Kathy Servoss, Patty Van de Bogart, Ronny Hardaway, Lisa Campbell, Jan Schachner, Kelly Suave, Barbara Sadovnic, Khaki Wunderlich

Excused: Shawna Black, Pete Angie, Karlem Sivia Gimenez

Absent: Jen Foote-Dean

Staff: Bridgette Nugent, Janice Johnson

Meeting called to order by Kathy at 5:05 p.m.

Minutes:

December minutes were not approved due to quorum not being obtained.

Assigned Updates from Board Members – Ronny Hardaway

The Executive Committee presented a new method of reporting updates from members to the Advisory Board. Each month, an assigned board member will provide more in-depth updates from their community and/or area of expertise as they relate to youth/issues facing youth. It is the aim of this new activity to increase awareness of the skills/strengths/connections each board member brings to the Advisory Board to and to foster discussion around youth issues throughout the county.

Ronny Hardaway provided updates on the following from the Village of Lansing:

- The Village does not currently have real youth committees but there are several initiatives that involve youth at the municipal level for example:
 - Youth volunteers working with the Learning Web provide landscaping services at municipal buildings
 - Village and other municipality staff are always open to inviting and mentoring youth around municipal issues and what is involved in working at that level of local government
 - This idea was met with great interest amongst members, as a potential idea/project to look into.
 - The Greenway Committee, which develops green spaces throughout the Village, encourages youth to be involved in the monitoring and maintenance of these spaces.
- Ronny has had multiple conversations with municipal staff & residents around CSEC awareness when he has displayed CSEC materials at public locations. Many individuals are not aware that CSEC is an issue facing Tompkins County youth.
- Running to Places, a youth-led and youth-focused theatre company is renovating the old movie theatre in Lansing to provide a permanent space for this program/project. They have been very successful in soliciting financial and in-kind donations. This program serves middle school-high school aged youth and engages them in planning all components of a theatre production. Another benefit is that college-aged students who have gone through the program become mentors to youth currently in the program.
- Ronny reached out to Frank Towner, CEO of the YMCA for updates on their current youth programming and received the following:
 - YMCA offers before and after school sessions for youth, including in Dryden and Groton

- Ages 15+ lifeguarding courses (open water and pool)
- Summer Camp Counselor in Training Program
- The YMCA will be sharing the soon-to-be completed Lansing sports field as well

The sign-up sheet for future meetings was passed around and board members selected the month in which they would present.

Other Updates from Board Members:

Lisa Campbell shared that she, with other community members, is working to coordinate resources in Lansing to serve underserved youth. She has engaged with all school principals and will be meeting with the school superintendent soon on these ideas/initiatives.

Barbara Sadovnic shared that, with Janice Johnson’s assistance, she was able to present a comparison of county summer camp fees to the Town of Enfield Board to demonstrate that Enfield’s summer camp fee was on par with other similar camps. She has also been requested by the Town Board to submit quarterly youth-services reports, which Janice has seen and assisted with.

Goal Planning for 2019:

Kathy outlined that, in small groups, the board would revisit the 2018 goals, the board’s progress on those goals, and what goals would be selected for 2019. After small group discussion, the board shared feedback and came to an agreement that the following would be goals of 2019:

- **Board Recruitment/Fill Roster**
 - Strategic recruitment methods via newsletters, professional networking events, etc.
- **Advocacy**
 - Attend community events
 - Develop materials to be easily shared with community & potential board members
- **Successful onboarding of new Youth Services Director**
 - Plan a possible meet and greet with partners and board members for the new director
 - Engage with County Administration to ensure smooth onboarding

For all 2019 goals, it was clear that a database needed to be created that allowed all board members to make updates on a regular basis their work on the recruitment/advocacy goals. Bridgette will start and share a Google Drive Sheet to begin this tracking process. Specific suggestions brainstormed by the Board during this meeting will also be outlined in this document.

Departmental Updates:

- 10 projects were selected to move forward in the Pitch Program, which will take place the afternoon into the evening of March 13, 2019.
- The Governor announced his Executive Budget, which presented level funding for statewide Youth Development funding, Runaway & Homeless Youth funding, and a slight increase to Summer Youth Employment funding to cover the rising cost of minimum wage. Bridgette will continue to update the Board on statewide budget as it makes its way through the legislature.
- 2018 Agency RBA Report Cards will be published to the TCYS website by Friday, February 1st. Bridgette will send email announcement for members to review and bring any questions/comments to February meeting.

- Bridgette shared the 2018 one-slide YS Department Accomplishments that will be shared with the County Administrator and County Legislature.
- February (Suicide Prevention) and March (Growth Mindset) trainings have been announced. February's training met capacity within a week of posting, indicating a high need for this type of training in the community.
- Please follow/share us on social media! Send any ideas of what the department should be sharing to Shannon Alvord or other staff of the TCYSD!

The Board agreed that **Saturday, March 30th from 9-11:00 a.m.** would be the best date for the annual board retreat. The Bev. Livesay room will be booked.

Three takeaways:

Board members shared items they can share with the other groups they work with and/or elected officials around the work of Youth Services:

- Trainings are in high demand, and should continue to be offered/promoted
- 2018 goals are still relevant for 2019
- A Database will be created to track progress towards 2019 goals to be shared with all board members

Adjournment: 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Bridgette Nugent