

**Preston Youth Service Bureau Youth Advisory Board  
Regular Meeting  
Wednesday, February 17, 2021  
4:00 pm.  
Teleconference**

Dr. Roy Seitsinger, called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

Roberta Charpentier stated *Per Lamont's Executive Order 7b, Participants are reminded to state their name and title before speaking. Also note that we will be recording this meeting to comply with open meeting requirements.*

**1. Roll Call**

**Regular Members**

Dr. Roy Seitsinger  
Armando Bettini, Resident State Trooper - absent  
Rachel Tucker  
Ray Bernier – left at 5:15 pm  
Sandra Allyn-Gauthier  
Amanda Phelps  
Ivy Davis-Tomczuk – left at 5:20 pm

**Also Present**

Amy Brosnan, Parks & Recreation Director  
Jessica Boucher (Preston Social Worker) – arrived 4:21  
Melissa Lennon  
Kim Litsey  
Zachary Robinson – Preston student  
Roberta Charpentier, recording secretary

**2. Public Comment**

Melissa Lennon stated that at the last meeting Amanda Phelps had been nominated to become a member and the Minutes recorded she had officially been made a member. She was not officially a member because the Board of Selectmen are required to approve that recommendation. So the Budget motion she voted on was illegal and will need to be redone at this meeting.

*It was noted that since the last meeting the BoS have approved A. Phelps' nomination.*

**3. Acceptance of previous meeting minutes**

January 20, 2021 – Regular Meeting

**A motion was made by R. Tucker and seconded by Ivy Davis-Tomczuk to accept the January 20, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.**

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

#### **4. Correspondence**

- a) Received request from the Board of Finance to submit the Annual Report
- b) Received resignation from Ray Bernier
- c) Received resignation from Ivy Davis-Tomczuk
- d) Sent YSB's budget to the Board of Selectmen

#### **5. Budget**

**A motion was made by Ivy Davis-Tomczuk and seconded by Amanda Phelps to rollover the existing 2020-2021 budget structure into the 2021-2022 budget structure to submit to the BoS for approval.**

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**A motion was made by R. Tucker and seconded by A. Phelps to add the Treasure's Report to the Agenda.**

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

#### **6. Treasure Report**

A. Brosnan discussed;

\$170.00 – part time staff

\$4,000 – salary

\$400 – Program expenses

~ \$4500 - spent

~ \$23, 430 balance

**A motion was made by S. Allyn-Gauthier and seconded by R. Tucker to accept the Treasurer Report as presented.**

**All in favor. Motion carries**

Dr. Roy Seitsinger thought written documentation, that the Board sees as an update, should be included with the Treasurer Report.

#### **7. Board Reorganization**

##### **a) By Laws**

M. Lennon used Madison, CT bylaws as a template.

- CT Statute states no less than seven members
- A nine member board with help with meeting quorum
- Move the Superintendent and two principals to liaison positions.

Still active part of board but not representing ½ of the board.

1<sup>st</sup> Selectwoman to liaison because then no conflict of interest because they supervise budget

- All members must be appointed by the Preston BoS
- State Statute subsection 4 states that 1 youth member under 21

1 member that represents the Preston public schools

1 member a representative of the Police department utilized in Preston

1 member who is a representative of a private youth serving organization that serves Preston youth

- 1/3 of total membership must receive less than 50% of their income by delivering services to youth.
- Because Preston does not have many private youth serving organizations, Department of Children and Family can waive requirements.
- 9 member board with 3 year terms
- Members who miss more than 1/2 of regularly scheduled meetings may be asked to resign
- Members are volunteers and do not receive compensation
- Chairman sets agenda and presides over meetings
- Vice Chairman fills in if chair is absent
- Secretary Keeps files of Minutes for reference and performs secretarial duties
- Treasure not needed because Amy Brosnan submits the Treasurer Report

R. Tucker asked what does Representative of a Private Youth Servicing Agency mean

A. Brosnan noted that Reverend Stan White previous filled that role

R. Tucker asked if a someone from a youth soccer board would fit that role

A. Brosnan answered no typically it would be someone from a group like UCFS

Dr. R. Seitsinger stated the YSB will accept the draft and YSB members can consider any modifications or adjustments at the next meeting, and then vote to accept initial bylaws.

**A motion was made by Ivy Davis-Tomczuk and seconded by R. Tucker to move #8, Resignations/Appointments up on the agenda with #5 Member Organization. All in favor. Motion carries**

**b) Member Organization/Resignations/Appointments**

A. Brosnan explained that in order to shift to a more community oriented Board and prevent any conflict of interest, the Superintendent, Principals and 1<sup>st</sup> Selectwoman will no longer be members, but instead liaisons.

A. Brosnan noted that it will be important that the Board maintain a close relationship with the school and liaisons are encouraged to attend meetings.

Dr. R. Seitsinger asked Kim Litsky to introduce herself.

Kim Litsky stated she is a priest with St. James church in Preston and is very interested in being part of the work of this Board.

**A motion was made by R. Tucker and S. Allyn-Gauthier seconded by to nominate Kim Litsky as private youth service member. All in favor. Motion carries**

Dr. R. Seitsinger asked Zachary Robinson to introduce himself  
Zachary Robinson stated that he is a Preston resident and is a Junior at Norwich Free Academy

**A motion was made by R. Tucker and seconded by A. Phelps to nominate Zachary Robinson as the Youth Representative.**  
**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**A motion was made by S. Allyn-Gauthier and seconded by R. Tucker to accept the resignations of Ray Bernier and Ivy Davis-Tomczuk when this meeting adjourns.**

*Discussion:*

Dr. Roy Seitsinger stated that the presence of educators at this table is always appreciated and that is not going to go away. It is with deep appreciation that we accept the resignations.

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**A motion was made by R. Tucker and seconded by S. Allyn-Gauthier to nominate Melissa Lennon as a member of the Youth Services Bureau.**

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**A motion was made by R. Tucker and seconded by A. Phelps to nominate Jessica Boucher as a member of the Youth Services Bureau.**

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

## **8. Surveys**

Dr. Roy Seitsinger stated that the data from the survey could be a guiding structure for decision making going forward, and the data gathered from the surveys should be shared with Preston's schools

A. Brosnan asked Dr. Seitsinger to distribute the survey to his staff and noted that last time the kids took the survey via computer during computer class.

Dr. Roy Seitsinger suggested that members review/edit the surveys and then finalize at the next YSB meeting.

## **9. Programs & Activities**

A. Brosnan described the Community Service Project, where kids made snowmen with kits YSB purchased, that were then distributed to 58 seniors/shut-ins.

Dr. Roy Seitsinger noted that he received a couple of thank you emails. It was a very positive impact.

A. Brosnan noted that because it's winter and COVID many people are home alone. The seniors liked that they were made by kids and the kids parents liked that the kids were making something that was given to the community.

A. Brosnan suggested doing the project again at Easter.

**A motion was made by A. Phelps and seconded by R. Tucker to appropriate \$500.00 for the Springtime Community Project.**

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

A. Brosnan stated that six towns are splitting the cost of a movie about social media.

See: <https://www.thelikemovie.com/>

The movie costs \$4300 total, ~\$700 per town. The movie is available to each town for 1 week.

A. Phelps stated that she watched it and highly recommends it.

**A motion was made by R. Tucker and seconded by S. Allyn-Gauthier to appropriate \$500.00 to rent this movie with other towns.**

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

A. Brosnan noted that Trooper Bettini is still interested in running the DARE program and will be reaching out to Ray Bernier.

A. Brosnan noted there are funds available for the virtual stress work shops. The total cost would be \$1200.00.

**A motion was made by R. Tucker and seconded by A. Phelps to appropriate \$1200 for stress workshops.**

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**A motion was made by S. Allyn-Gauthier and seconded by A. Phelps to appropriate NTE \$1,000 for the DARE program.**

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

#### **Public Comment**

None

#### **Adjournment**

**A motion was made by A. Phelps and seconded by R. Tucker to adjourn the meeting at 5:34 pm**

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

