

**Preston Youth Services Bureau Advisory Board
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, September 15, 2021
4:00 pm.
Teleconference**

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

Chairwoman Melissa Lennon called the meeting to order at 4:03 pm.

Regular Members

Melissa Lennon – Chairwoman
Amanda Phelps – Vice Chair
Rachel Tucker – Secretary – left at 4:53 pm
Armando Bettini – Police Rep. - resigned
Jessica Boucher – School Rep. (left at 5:10 pm)
Kim Litsey – Youth Organization Rep. - resigned
Kasey Peek – Community Member
Zachary Robinson – Youth Rep.

Liaisons

Sandra Allyn-Gauthier – BoS - excused
Dr. Roy Seitsinger – PPS - excused
Dr. Ivy Davis-Tomczuk – PPS - excused
Ray Bernier – PPS - excused

Also Present

Amy Brosnan, Parks & Recreation Director
Roberta Charpentier, recording secretary

2. Public Comment

None

3. Approve Meeting Minutes

a. May 19, 2021 – Regular Meeting

Tabled

b. June 9, 2021 – Special Meeting

A motion was made by J. Boucher and seconded by K. Peek to approve the Special Meeting Minutes of June 9, 2021 as amended.

All in favor. Motion carries.

Dr. Roy Seitsinger – PPS – ~~absent~~ - excused

c. June 30, 2021 – Special Meeting

A motion was made by K. Peek and seconded by J. Boucher to approve the Special Meeting Minutes of June 30, 2021 as presented.

All in favor. Motion carries

4. Correspondence

1. Resignation from Armando Bettini
2. Resignation from Kim Litsey
3. Submitted YSB Grant Application
4. Submitted 2020/2021 participation numbers to the State

5. PYSB Financial Report

Town: \$14,000

DCF Main Grant: \$141,86

Enhancement Grant: \$5,634

Total Budget: \$33,820

YTD Costs:

A. Brosnan Stipend: \$125 per week for July and August

Youth Services Conference: \$50

6. Resignations & Appointments

Armando Bettini and Kim Litsey resigned because they were offered jobs in other towns. The YSB regretfully accepts their resignations and wishes them well in their future endeavors.

a. Resignation of Armando Bettini & Kim Litsey

A motion was made by K. Peeks and seconded by J. Boucher to regretfully accept the resignation of Armando Bettini and Kim Litsey.

All in favor. Motion carries

b. Recommendation for Alternate Member

K. Peeks noted that she may know someone and will ask them.

Chairman Lennon noted that now that 2 Regular members resigned, the YSB should work on filling those vacancies first.

Recommendation for Alternate Member was tabled.

7. By-Laws Revision a. Clarify the initial terms of PYSAB members with the three-year term with staggered rotation following

Chairman Lennon stated that the Town Clerk suggested the YSB make the Membership terms clearer.

Membership, Section II, Subset B, Item III

With the initial implementation of these terms, the Board of Selectmen will appoint first 3 members terms ending December 31st 2024, 3 members terms ending December 31st 2023 and 3 members terms ending December 31st 2022

A motion was made by J. Boucher and seconded by A. Phelps to approve the revision to the YSB by-laws clarifying member's initial terms with a 3 year staggered rotation.

All in favor. Motion carries.

8. Youth Service Bureau Grant Application (CT Grant with biannual application process)

a. <https://portal.ct.gov/DCF/Policy/Regulations/Youth-Service-Bureau-Grant-Program>

b. <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DCF/Contracts/pdf/2019-Youth-Services-Bureau-GrantApplication.pdf>

A. Brosnan explained that a new grant package with program goals has to be submitted every 2 years and it was due Sept 1st.

9. Youth Services Bureau 101 Class for New Directors, Staff, and Boards – June 4th

Chairman Lennon stated that this meeting was virtual and she sent out her notes to YSB members.

10. PSYAB: Planned Programs & Activities – Updates

a. N.E.S.S. (2 sessions - June 2021)

A. Brosnan stated that she got great reviews from parents and kids.

Offering the bus transportation was very important because many parents work.

b. Parks & Rec Summer Concert (June 29th) – PSYAB Book Give-Away

A. Brosnan stated that ice cream and books were given away and it went really well.

c. Tunes & Tots (birth to 5)

A. Brosnan stated that these classes went over very well.

Two 6 week sessions at the Park

birth to 2 years – 10 kids

3 years -5 years – 9 kids

The parents really appreciated that it was free.

d. Nappy's Puppet Show

A. Brosnan state that it was a great program. Not a lot signed up, but the ones that did attend really enjoyed it.

e. Story Time with Preston resident/Usborne rep. Holly Trimmer

A. Brosnan stated it went very well.

Holly would read 2 or 3 books and then do a craft with the kids.

A. Brosnan noted that she will talk to the Town's librarian about story time because when YSB and the Library combine efforts it's more successful for everyone.

f. Babysitting classes through Red Cross

A. Brosnan explained that the Financial Director told her that even though the YSB made the motion to use the funds there was not a signed contract by June 30th so the funds could not be used.

g. Story Walk boards

A. Brosnan stated that the Story Walk Boards arrived and will be installed in 2 to 3 weeks.

11. PYSAB: Programming Goals for 2021-2022

A motion was made by A. Phelps and seconded by K. Peeks to have a babysitting class NTE \$650 through American Special Services in which Preston Youth Services will pay 50% of the babysitting course for each child that signs up.

All in favor. Motion carries.

12. PYSAB: Programming Ideas

a. IndieFlix Original sequel to LIKE in October (anxiety or cyberbullying)

- A. Phelps suggested 2 viewings because many kids have other activities.

M. Lennon noted last time a virtual viewing was included.

M. Lennon suggested an outside viewing at the Park.

A. Phelps thought a virtual viewing would work better at this time.

K. Peeps thought there is less impact when viewed virtually.

A. Brosnan noted there are pros and cons of viewing both ways. Parents think virtual is more convenient and I don't think many people would show up at the Park. Only 39 people signed up

for it last time.

J. Boucher thought it would be best to hold off on this for now and maybe schedule a viewing during the Winter when everyone is stuck inside.

K. Peek suggested getting books on anxiety and cyber bullying for the library

b. School Gardens

No Comments

c. Pen Pals with Seniors

No Comments

d. Preston Youth Employment Service (Y.E.S.)

A. Brosnan stated she would like the name changed to Hire A Teen, because Youth Employment Services seems like the YSB is hiring.

Teens aged 12 to 17 will fill out forms with their work interest ie: snow shoveling, yard work, etc.

Resident who are looking for help will also fill out a form with their needs and YSB will match them up with a teen.

e. other

No Comments

13. Public Comment

No Public Comment

14. Adjournment

A motion was made by K. Peels and seconded by A Phelps to adjourn the meeting at 5:39 pm.

All in favor. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,



Roberta Charpentier