

Hastings Youth Council Agenda
James V. Harmon Community Center Lower Level
Wednesday, February 05, 2020, 7:00pm

Staff Present: Vernal Ford, JoAnn Reed-Stokes

Board Members Present: Alana Campus, Liz Gabay, Elizabeth Galletta, Demaris-Lois Lang, Amy Nichols, Lori Walsh

Board Members Absent: Carrick Forbes, Karen Sokol (attending conference for the WAY coalition)

I. Old Business

a. Harlem Rockets/Fundraiser/Social Event with Hastings Police (A.N.)

Amy Nichols is organizing this event.

The event is scheduled for Friday 3/13, 7-9pm.

-Assemblies are scheduled for 2/25 at Hillside (8:45 and 9:15 am) and at FMS (10:30am); ideally the flier will be created and sent home that day with students.

-Contract has been signed and sent with check for \$875 (adding us to their insurance)

-Custodial staff will be there at no extra charge, \$25 needed for security to stay until 10pm

-Ticket prices: advance: \$8 student/\$10 adult; at door \$10 student/\$15 adult

-We receive 20 free tix, to be given to JoAnn to distribute, we will receive paper tix in 2 wks

-Selling tickets through paypal or Eventbrite was discussed, JoAnn will follow up with Amy about this possibility.

-Selling tickets at the door: Elizabeth will ask Hastings KIDS to help the night of the event and also Francesco Scioscia can help.

-20-30 players for our team will hopefully include both high school students and adults. HS students from HHS and the Graham School, and teachers from Hastings UFSD and the Graham school will be asked if they are interested in participating. Village Trustee Georgia Lopez and Chief Dosin are involved with a program at the Graham School and it was discussed that he will ask students/teachers from Graham and Lou will help with getting participants from Hastings UFSD.

-Need scorekeeper/timekeeper-Amy indicated Lou will get someone to do that.

-Need volunteer "ref" – the gym teacher Mr. Kiely was suggested, Amy will follow up.

-Concessions to be organized by Elizabeth and Lori Walsh.

-Water/Gatorade for teams will be purchased with concessions purchases.

-"Towels" was on the list of items from the Rockets needed to be provided by us.

Amy will inquire what size/type of towels are requested.

-Advertising in email blasts, posters, flyers in folders, etc. was discussed to be distributed once a flier is created. Amy will ask Karen to help create a flier

-Amy will coordinate with people listed here before our next meeting since the event is then right after that in March.

b.Foodtown Escrip Program (J.R.)

See below.

c.Dance Party Fundraiser for Youth Council at Hudson Social—Review of Event (E.G.)

This was not a fundraiser for the Youth Council, so they did not want to advertise our programs specifically at the event, yet they took our brochures and placed them on a table and donated their proceeds of \$334. to the Youth Council. Elizabeth thanked the organizers.

d.Annual Fundraising Total (J.R.)

\$10, 400. (includes the \$334 above).

e.Youth Advocate Report/Drug-Free Coalition/Food Pantry (J.R., V.F)

- **Hastings Food Pantry**

We are now registered in the Escript program with Foodtown. The program provides 3% cashback on all purchases for those who are registered. Customers can register using their customer loyalty number at escrip.com/foodtown and choose **Friends of the Hastings on Hudson Youth Council** as the organization they would like to donate to. This would need to be advertised in order to be beneficial. The format for this advertising was not discussed.

- **Hastings WAY Drug Free Coalition**

Karen is at meeting this week in DC, more to follow next month.

- **Youth Advocate-School Prevention Programs**

Hillside Elementary school has temporarily stopped allowing Donny to provide services pending approval from the Board of Education. This is a new district-wide policy that all volunteers and agencies be approved prior to being given access to the students. All Youth Advocate staff and coalition staff members will have their resumes and credentials reviewed at the board of education meeting on February 10th to prevent future delay of services. JoAnn continues to work with the middle and high school staff to select programs for the remainder of the year and to decide best practices moving forward.

- **Other-** Parks and Recreation may need help in fundraising the cost of scholarships for summer programs i.e.; day camp and pool passes.

f.Youth Employment Service (J.I.)

From Jill Iturbe: The big news is that the January 14th Annual Summer Job Info Fair was an enormous success. 110 students signed in during the lunch hour that day. Since that time, of course, information has continued to be shared with additional students stopping by.

Depending upon students' ages, up to 30 camp/pool clubs were included, 18 sources for Lifeguarding jobs, 12 places to choose lifeguard training courses along with their schedules and fees and more. I have contact information and interest categories for all of these students so that I can update them with new information. I have been contacted by 5 camps so far asking me to promote them for jobs. For the first time this year we will be hosting 1 Camp who requested to have Hiring/Interview times at the HS: Camp 12 Trails from the JCC will be conducting interviews in the HHS lobby on Tues. Feb 11th after school. These camps employ HS juniors, seniors and grads.

In addition to that, 16 new jobs were filled since the last meeting, despite a week off schedule for students for tests. Some of these include tutoring, after school babysitting, evening babysitting, home office file/papers organization, teaching assistant at Mathnasium and a tech job for the WAY Coalition.

g.Social Media (C.F.)

Deferred this topic to next meeting, Carrick not present.

h.Collaboration with School District on Communication and Conflict Resolution Program at Middle School and High School (J.R.)

No update.

i. Safe Rides (J.R.)

The regular driver was injured so has not been working and the backup driver has the flu. JoAnn is working on another backup driver, yet this person may not be cleared by this week end so there may not be SafeRides this week end. Elizabeth reported SafeRides cards were given to Jeff Conwisar at HHS to distribute to the 9th graders in the PL Groups but there has been no confirmation that this has taken place.

j. Hastings KIDS updates (E.G.)

Next KIDS meeting is Friday Feb 7. At HHS with Elizabeth and students.

- **Relay for Life- (E.G., L.W.)**

RFL committee/Hastings KIDS met 1/10 and we determined several subcommittees for RFL.

Karen made us a flier that was approved by school district.

Email blast with flier went out to school community on Feb 4th, World Cancer Day about the HOH RFL. Three teams have formed. We have raised \$200. EG received a couple emails from people with questions. RFL committee is working with a variety of subcommittees. Elizabeth will meet with District Admin next week.

Relay for Life Youth Council team was discussed – Alana will create a team.

- **Bracelet Fundraiser for RFL at HOH events**

Elizabeth sold bracelets outside gym at Rec Basketball last week and sales are underway. Youth Council members encouraged to sell 5 bracelets each. Bracelets were distributed to several people to sell.

- **Reading Partners at Hillside Elementary**

Starts after Feb. Break for three weeks Tuesdays and Thursdays.

- **Grace Community Table and Breakfast Run**

Grace/Rivertowns BR 1/26 was reported to be a good experience by the new organizers.

GCT 2/1/2020 was well attended with 5 HHS girls who volunteered.

k. First Generation College Prep (D.L, C.K.)

- **Free Tutoring Program and Creation of Curriculum/Workshops**

Demaris-Lois and JoAnn met with Chris who is creating a curriculum for college prep yet it was discussed that with his schedule he will not be available to tutor. He is putting together a guide for college prep and creating some FAQs to be put on our webpage with possible links to a youtube channel where he will present information. This idea regarding the links on our page and youtube channel was discussed. Lori indicated that her husband is involved with tutoring for SAT and ACT and she will connect her husband with JoAnn and Demaris-Lois to further discuss.

l. Help-a-Child (A.C., L.G.)

Alana has worked with JoAnn to create an updated list where there are 16 kids listed. Alana estimated that 8 more donors are needed. JoAnn indicated possibly a few of the kids on the list will be taken off, so possibly it is less than 8 people/families needed.

m. Mercy College/Hastings Youth Council Internship (L.W.)

Lori reported that two students applied for this internship and they looked like a good fit to her. Both passed the Village screening and are able to start at the Community Center. These two Mercy students will be reviewed at the Hastings UFSD Board of Ed meeting Feb 10th to get approved to also be allowed to help at Hillside.

II. New Business

- Teen Benefit Australia at South Church
The Youth Council was contacted by South Church regarding an interfaith and inter village community benefit Friday evening at South Church. Two people were invited to attend. Elizabeth will attend this event and possibly someone from the Council will join her.
- Announcement: Liz Gabay is stepping down after her term is up in April. Potential individuals were suggested. The possibility of having a man on the Youth Council was suggested. We will follow up about this next month.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm

Minutes submitted by Elizabeth Galletta