

CENTRAL SHENANDOAH VALLEY YOUTH COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes September 18, 2019

Location: United Way of Greater Augusta - 29 Idlewood Boulevard, Staunton

Commissioners Present: Susan Mace, Grace Melvin, Peter VanAcker, Erika Bischof, and Taylor Flavin, Lori Nicholson, Jonas Fike, Carolyn Alderman,

Commissioners Absent or Excused: Brenda Mead, Amber Martino, Michelle Nadine and Kelly Spotlow-Durrett, Doug Davis, and Lauren Henderson.

Others in Attendance: Ginny Newman- OOO Director, Grace Deshong – OOO Division Supervisor, Nancy Tyree-Office Manager, and Kira Johnson – Waynesboro Planning Department, Colleen Andes- OOO Parenting Program Assistant.

Lori Nicholson called the meeting to order at 5:33pm. Moved to approve March 2019 minutes by Susan Mace and second by Peter VanAcker. Introduction of the new Office on Youth Division Supervisor, Grace Deshong. Grace shared her background experience and is excited to be working and giving back to the community she resides in.

Announcements/Reports and Updates:

- 1) Speaker: Dr. Beth Easterling, MBU was our guest speaker. Beth has completed and continues to do research on adults who experienced parental incarceration as a child and how it shaped their lives as adults. She shared amazing stories about some of the interviews she completed with the now adults, she also went into prisons and completed surveys, doing interviews on the incarcerated adults, mostly females. Susan Mace suggested that the OOO or MBU speak to teachers about incarcerated parents so they may understand some youth issues and why they are occurring. Josh Fike had some questions about the trust issues with incarcerated parents and interviewing the youth of these parents. Peter VanAcker pointed out that the person doing the interviews must be competent and confident. Information attached from Beth about survey.

2) Office Updates:

- The Safe Routes to School Program Coordinator position is still being advertised, interviews have been performed and we are looking to offer the position to someone by the end of the week.
- Our Teen Pregnancy Prevention Coordinator has resigned, the Assistant Kelly Peters has stepped up into the Coordinator position so we will be advertising for the Assistant position.
- We are advertising to fill 2 positions for child care workers for the Parenting Programs.

3) Volunteer opportunities:

- Walk to school week is September 30th-October 4th. Everyone was given a schedule of the schools and times volunteers are needed. They are to call Ginny and inform her of the days or times that would like to cover.
- The GAPP Youth Coalition is going to be attending Kite Day at Corner Springs Park on September 28, 2019. From 10am-3pm. They will have a table about the dangers of smoking and vaping.
- A schedule was given out of all the Fall Sports going on in Waynesboro, this was

provided by Stephanie Seltzer of Waynesboro Parks and Recreation. Any volunteers that want to come out and help contact Stephanie.

Other Business and Discussion

- 1) Strategic planning – Ginny is to present the OOH goals to the localities. The Strategic plan has been worked on by the commission and the OOH staff over the past 8 months. The strategic plan will be using developmental assets as a way for staff to report back on how they are meeting the goals in the plan. She would like to get feedback to share with them and not just always give them numbers of folks served. A Draft version of the Strategic plan will be highlighted at the November meeting.
- 2) We are still lacking representation for a Waynesboro Youth Commissioner. Taylor Flavin is reaching out to the High School assistant principle for some references.
- 3) Kira Johnson from Waynesboro Planning Department attended the meeting to share what her job is and to be more involved with youth programs in the community. She feels that youth should be a part of all locality commissions.
- 4) A new Chair and Vice Chair will have to be elected, Lori Nicholson shared what the duties of both officers would be. There was interest from a few commissioners, Ginny will send out an email with the description and expectations of the positions and request commissioners to contact her if interested. A New Chair and Vicechair will need to be elected at the November meeting.

Meeting was moved to adjourn at 6:53pm by Peter VanAcker, and second by Susan Mace.

Next meeting date: November 20, 2019

Hi Ginny,

Thank you again for having me at the meeting tonight. As I mentioned, I am really excited to learn more about our community as I (finally) put down some roots instead of moving wherever the Marine Corps sends us. So it was really great to meet some people who share similar goals and interests.

Below is the link to the online survey, along with some additional info that I have used to advertise. I appreciate your willingness to help spread the word. If I can ever be of further assistance, please let me know!

Sincerely,

Beth

SEEKING RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS for a study on ADULT CHILDREN OF INCARCERATED PARENTS

If you are over the age of 18 and experienced the incarceration (jail or prison) of a parent at any time before turning 18, you are invited to participate in a research study. This study will ask you about your experiences having a parent who is/was incarcerated and how that has impacted your life. Please note that participants may not comment on any ongoing cases/investigations or discuss any illegal behavior committed by themselves or others. This study is being conducted for research purposes only. The researcher is a criminologist seeking information on the experiences of children with incarceration. No compensation is available for participation in this study. All interviews and surveys are confidential. Your real name will not be used in dissemination of data.

If you would like to participate in the study online, please follow the following link: https://marybaldwin.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_blyZn6i8mPxarWZ

For a more detailed description of the study, to provide informed consent, and take the interview online. The online survey should take approximately 15-20 minutes. If you would like further information on the survey, if you have specific questions about the study, or if you would like to discuss being a participant in an in-person (on campus at MBU or at a location of mutual approval by you and the researcher) or online (via Skype or Google Chat) interview, please send an email to Beth Easterling at beasterling@marybaldwin.edu. Interviews are expected to last 30 minutes to 2 hours.

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