



Town of Greenwich
BOARD OF HUMAN SERVICES MINUTES
Regular Meeting, October 17th, 2017

ATTENDING

Board Attendees: Barbara Nolan, Abbott Jones, Annalisa Fernandez, Jeffrey Medina, Natalie Queen, Alan Gunzberg, Winston Robinson.

Staff Attendees: Alan Barry, Jenny Byxbee

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson, Barbara Nolan, called the meeting to order at 7:00PM in the DHS Conference Room at Town Hall.

BOARD PROTOCOLS

The minutes of the October 17th Meeting were approved 7-0 as written.

**YOUTH SERVICES
BUREAU**

Jenny Byxbee, Youth Services Administrator, reported that the focus has been transitioning the state grant into the town budget and getting all the youth programs in Client Track.

Juvenile Review Board - kids arrested for a first-time misdemeanor are given the opportunity to have their case presented to a panel of professionals to discuss the case instead of going to court. Should the child agree to the wavers and completes the contract, their record will be expunged. Most of the kids who use this program do not reoffend.

Schools can no longer file a "Quizen" (Family with service needs) with the court system so the Youth Services Bureau will take that process over and create some type of intervention approach for those children and families.

First Selectman's Youth Commission - Kids from each school can join the Youth Commission by applying online and going through a review process with a final vote by the board.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Achievement Gap Committee – Mr. Robinson, Chairman, announced that Dr. Barry has met with the Family Centers staff to move ahead with some of the items discussed in their last meeting. The information provided in their last report has been sent to the BET and but waiting for the election on Nov. 7th before its sent to the BOE.

Dr. Barry met with Family Centers with the goal to start working with the 0-3 population and families. One of the programs of interest is called "Minding the Baby" which provides a nurse and social worker in home and begins when the mother is pregnant. Dr. Barry will also be meeting with Lauren Rabin on the BOE to go over the Achievement Gap report. Dr. Barry suggested the school



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use some of its Achievement Gap funding to develop a pilot program with some of the programs discussed with the Family Centers.

Community Partnership Committee – Mr. Gunzberg, Chairman, reports shelter housing has been reduced by 5K. Grants of less than 5K will no longer be given out. The committee has modified a program where instead of funding personal safety, it will fund an employment training with Abilis. The committee has allocated to a new program operated out of Stamford called WeeAct. It is for at-risk sophomores and juniors in the High School to encourage enrolling in college through college tours. We have put 5k aside hoping to have enough kids from High School to work with the programs and go on college trips. These trips are to traditional African-American colleges (HBCU's). Scholarship money put aside for our students and residents so they can take part in these programs.

**COMMISSIONER'S
REPORT**

1. September Operating Statement and Dashboard – Dr. Barry stated we are on budget and there were no significant variances.
2. DHS Foundation Update – Foundation organization is almost complete.
3. RBA – Working on development of a report that will be presented to the BET and the RTM which will present the plans and strategies for funding various community based programs. The BET and RTM want to understand why we fund certain programs and to ensure alignment with need.
4. Fiscal Year '19 budget– Dr. Barry has drafted a budget he will be reviewing with the finance committee. We do not have budget guidelines just yet due to the upcoming election. A first draft has been completed and will be reviewed when the committee meets. It is, as of now, still under 2%. The budget continues to shift funds to help supplement other areas of need. The budget includes a 65K increase for fiscal year '19.

NEXT MEETING

The next Board Meeting will be held on November 21, 2017 in the DHS Conference Room at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey Medina