

YOUTH COMMISSION VIRTUAL MEETING
MEETING MINUTES
April 15, 2021

ATTENDANCE:

Board Members: Sandra Scott, Gily Schneider-Nachum, Gretchen Bean, Joan Clementi, Casey Rickli,
Sherry Clark, Jennifer Lipton-O'Conner,
Staff Members: June David-Fors, Ayako Reich, Doreen Genna

MOTION TO OPEN THE MEETING – Made by Gretchen Bean, seconded by Gily Schneider-Nachum.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Thursday, May 20, 2021 at 7:00 pm

INTRODUCTIONS and ICE BREAKER – June welcomed all and introduced the two new Board Members, Sherry Clark and Jennifer Lipton-O'Connor; as well as our new staff member Doreen Genna, Office Assistant.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

COVID-19 PANDEMIC – June provided a review of this past year since the beginning of this pandemic. The Town Departments of Family & Youth Services, Police and Fire all reported that in the beginning it was surprisingly quiet, but soon after picked up. Through the leadership of John Coderre all staff quickly adjusted to the “new way of doing business.” Given the profound impact of the pandemic we found that our partnerships with town departments, the schools and community organizations to be essential. The Town and Superintendent held several meetings to develop plans in response to the pandemic, with the focus on balancing the safety of the public and staff, with meeting the needs of residents. With Town Hall closing to the public on March 17, 2020, we quickly found new ways to carry out our work to overcome disruption to in-person services.

PERSONNEL UPDATE – In January of 2021 we hired Doreen Genna into the position of Office Assistant. We also have with us Abdulateef Aljarboua, PH.D Graduate Intern from William James College.

NEW PROGRAM – A major accomplishment has been the addition of INTERFACE Referral Service. Thanks to the Special Benevolent Fund Trustees, we secured the funding to contract with William James College in July of 2020. This vital new service provides residents with referrals to outpatient therapists and psychiatrists.

FY 2022 ANNUAL BUDGET – Our Budget was increased by \$16,000 due to the addition of INTERFACE.

OTHER BUSINESS – There being none, the meeting was adjourned.

MOTION TO ADJOURN – Made by Gily Schneider-Nachum, seconded by Gretchen Bean at 8:50 pm.