

**Wilton Youth Council
Board Meeting
October 11, 2011**

Present: Mimi Houska, Maria Wilcox, Joanna Copley, Carol Ball, Colleen Fawcett, Barbarajean Segall, Kathleen Davis, Nancy Gany.

Meeting called to order at 11:10am.

Mimi chaired meeting in Nan's absence.

Secretary's Report

Motion made by Maria Wilcox; seconded by Joanna Coley to approve the minutes of September 13th 2011. **Approved.**

President's Report

Nan emailed Mimi the update of the Appeals meeting held on October 5th which is as follows:

- Had good planning meeting for appeal letter: Nan, Joanna, Kathleen, Nancy, Connie and Colleen.
- Target date to get in the mail is 1st weekend of Nov.
- Will use same letter format as last year.
- Plan to include bookmark insert on the Nov. and Dec. Parent Connection events – Nancy is working on this.
- Target date to get final format of letter to Paul for printing is Oct. 28th.
- Will get envelopes and flyer to him as soon as ready.
- Colleen and Nan are going to create the first working draft by end of this week and send to board for review.
- Will call an all-hands for envelope stuffing first week of Nov. Date TBD
- Decision was made to have letter signed by the "Board" and not just President of WYC.

Vice President's Report

Mimi recently met with Class Project chairs:

- 2012 - No overall chairs in place yet.
- 2013 - Are in great shape.
- 2014 - Also in great shape.
- 2015 - Recently lost their 2 chairs.
- 2016 - Just starting up.
- 2017 - Are meeting in Feb.

Treasurer

Maria proposed we deposit \$25,000-30,000 into a money market account at Webster Bank. There was a discussion and a vote will take place shortly.

Program Advisors' will get financial statements.

Federal Taxes are complete and waiting to be signed by Nan and Maria.

Discussed new Sales Tax law and its effect on WYC. Accountants are looking into it.

Nominating

The following Board positions are still open: President, Vice President, Assistant Treasurer, Fund Raising, Marketing and Publicity. Mimi strongly encouraged the board to look for qualified people and to get the word out.

Grants

Barbara Jean reported that she is still waiting to hear from FCCF about funding.

Youth Services

Colleen reported she has advertised for the position of "Youth Services Program Manager". This person's focus is to help out with Youth Council activities. Colleen has received many resumes and is confident the position will be filled soon.

Colleen recently attended a United Way meeting. The United Way has asked for us to write a press release about the awarding of a grant from UW again this year. Carol said she would be happy to write the press release.

Colleen and Mimi recently met with the program advisors. Responsibilities were reviewed, grant information was shared and expectations for the year were discussed.

She also shared with us the MB Y2Y schedule for the year. TJ Leonard will cover for Tanya during her maternity leave.

Parent Connection/Fathers' Forum

Nancy reported that Parent Connection has 2 upcoming events:

Date: Tuesday, 11/15/11 from 10:30 - 12:00 OR 11/16/11 from 7 – 8:30

Presentation: **Parenting Book Discussion Series: Getting to Calm: Cool-Headed Strategies for Parenting Tweens & Teens by Laura Kastner, Ph.D. & Jennifer Wyatt, Ph.D.**

Presenter: Dr. Susan Bauerfeld, Psychologist and Wilton mom of 3 boys

Audience: Parents of elementary, middle and high school students

Venue: Wilton Library

Fee: None

Recurring Dates: The 3rd Tuesday of every other month (1/17/12; 3/20/12; 5/15/12)

Date: Tuesday, 12/6/11

Presentation: **Connecting with Your Kids: Learning the Language of Teens**

Presenter: Barbara Greenberg, Ph.D

Audience: Parents of middle and high school students

Venue: Wilton Library

Fee: None

Nancy also noted that neither MB nor WHS was willing to have Barbara Greenberg speak to students at this time primarily due to the fact that Wilton public schools have a protocol about speakers, which requires staff to pre-screen potential speakers and/or programs. To that end, it would be a wonderful opportunity for select staff from MB and WHS to come to the parent presentation in December. This way we can think about a student presentation later in the school year if that makes sense.

Nancy is researching pricing on a bookmark (2-sided with Parent Connection events noted above printed on each side) to be included with the WYC annual appeal letter.

Newsletter

Connie was not able to attend the meeting. Her report was emailed to the Secretary and is as follows:

Enewsletter went out for October and we had a good “open” rate of 45%. This is well above the industry average. We currently have 732 subscribers.

Connie is trying to get the Community of Concern booklet out to 6th grade parents the week of October 24th. This should be just a few weeks before we send out our annual appeal letter.

Miscellaneous

The board discussed what happened at the recent Wilton/Ridgefield football game and to what extent if any should be WYC’s involvement. WYC felt that when it comes to specific responses (security, day vs night games, canceling games, etc.) were clearly outside the perimeters of WYC and were within the realm of school decisions. However, WYC, whose mission is promoting healthy social/emotional development, is concerned about the disrespect, lack of civility, underage drinking, and violence and will continue to address social and emotional development through it’s programming. Colleen suggested Parent Connection explore a talk that would address how parents can continue to influence their children as they grow and spend more time without parents in the community (like at football games, dances, etc.) How can we know that are children are behaving while not under out direct care? What do we do when we find out they are not? Etc.

Meeting adjourned at 12:45pm