

Youth Services Committee Meeting
December 7th 2016

Meeting called to order at: 7:03 PM

In attendance: John Williams, Anna S., George B., Ashley S., Marge T., Tom B., Dick B., Carol Y., Cal D., Carla S., Amy H., Sarah M.

Public Comments: None

Director's Report:

The Youth Services Department is currently conducting interviews to fill both Intervention positions. Tianna Hill's last day with the Township was November 18 and there are several candidates that are being asked back for second interviews. With the Intervention team down in staff members, John, Bert and Princess (YS Intern) have been quite busy making sure all the cases are covered. John is preparing to train staff at Brooks using a mentoring model. Cargo Circles continues to be a success and John has found that using the mentoring model with Cargo Circle Training has served them well. With this method, teachers are able to lead circles themselves whenever John or George are not available.

Liaison Reports (brief summary of OP & RF Reports):

Oak Park Liaison unable to attend so no report was given.

River Forest:

The committee welcomed new River Forest member, Sarah Mayeda. Carla is still looking for a replacement for Molly U. who resigned from the committee in November. River Forest Township along with the help of Oak Park Township, The Oak Park Public Health Department, Rotary and the Community Mental Health Board will be performing a mental health needs assessment. Three proposals are being reviewed in the next few weeks and they are looking to have this completed by January 1.

New Business:

The committee started discussing the timeline and schedule to review new contract requests for the upcoming funding cycle. Previously, the committee has invited program administrators to come present their programs which allowed committee members to gain knowledge and insight into how the program ran. Marge proposed that the tradition continue and the committee invite program administrators to submit their requests and then come talk to committee members. The committee felt like having the chance to talk to administrators and ask questions prior to the voting period would be beneficial.

The committee also discussed the evaluation process for contract requests. The committee feels that there have been a lot of changes in the world and community and they would like the programs they fund for FY18 to reflect those changing needs to better serve the community.

The idea of replacing the priority bucket of job readiness with social emotional learning was brought up and a discussion about the importance of social emotional learning broke out. Carla suggested the idea of decreasing the amount of priorities from three to two in order to have a more focused goal for the year and it was well received by committee members. A motion was made by Dick to update the contract request form from having three priorities to two. The proposal included changing the program focuses to multi-literacy and social emotional learning with the inclusion of

Substance Abuse Prevention/Early Intervention. Mentoring would still be a requirement and an over-arching theme. Anna S. seconds the motion and the motion passes unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned at: 9:37 PM