

Youth Services Committee Meeting
March 9th 2016

Meeting called to order at: 7:10 PM

In attendance: John Williams, Ade O., Tom B., Jane H., Bob G., Marge T., George B., Amy H., Ashley S., Dick B., Willie., Anna S., Pat B., Molly U., Brenan S.

**Untraditional notes as majority of the meeting was spent discussing and reviewing contracts.

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

Oak Park: The board attended a presentation on the Youth Services budget. The board is also continuing to review their goals/objectives. They've noticed a lot of agencies struggling as state funding decreases.

River Forest: RF will hopefully have a new committee member, pending approval. The first few Sibshops are up and running. Last week RF held an all day mental health/first aid training that was well received. There were a lot of D97 (Principals, Social Works etc.) representatives present. At the training there was exposure to mental illness with an emphasis on suicide awareness.

New Business: Contract Review

Below is the list of votes for FY16 Contracts:

RIVER FOREST:

- River Forest Public Library-Connections:
 - Motion to fund at full amount requested of \$7,260.00 by: Anna S.
 - Seconded by: Amy H.
 - Motion Passes Unanimously

Rationale: During the site visit, committee members found that it was an open and welcoming environment. They believe the service to the youth has improved since last year and saw program administrators were engaged with the kids.

- River Forest Police Department- ISearch
 - Motion to fund at full amount requested of \$8,150.00 by: Anna S.
 - Seconded by: Amy H.
 - Motion Passes Unanimously

Rational Committee members feel that this program is beneficial and worth it for the amount of people in the community it serves.

JOINT:

- OPRFHS Intramurals
 - Motion to fund at \$12,000 by: Molly U.
 - Seconded by: Anna S.
 - Motion Passes Unanimously

Rationale: The committee was impressed by the diversity of sports they offered, high degree of participation and initiative shown by the students who participate in the intramurals.

- Snowball
 - Motion to fund at \$9,000 by:
 - Seconded by:
 - Motion Passes Unanimously

Rationale: Committee members felt the increase in amount is justified because the program is limited on the number of students they can accept and often times have to turn people away. They feel the increase in funding will help them increase their capacity which would be better for the kids.

- Concordia Robotics
 - Motion to fund at \$7,726.85 by: Jane H.
 - Seconded by: Amy H.
 - Motion Passes Unanimously with 1 recused (Marge) due to conflict of interest

Rationale: The robotics is a great program that has shown tremendous success with exposing youth to S.T.E.M. and the committee likes that the University supports it and provides a great infrastructure.

- Paper HeART
 - Motion to fund at full amount requested of \$9,849.00 by: Bob
 - Seconded by: Brenan
 - Motion passes unanimously

Rationale: Committee members were very impressed by the innovation and out of the box thinking of this program. They like that it would be something unique to the community. In particular, they loved the social justice aspect of the program – something no other program offers.

OAK PARK:

District 97 contracts reviewed all at once with one motion made for the following funding amounts:

- Irviing Slam - \$8,000.00
- Beye Boost - \$5,000.00
- Mann Homework Club - \$4,000.00
- Lincoln Media Program - \$6,400
- Hatch Homework Helper - \$7,000.00

- Longfellow Homework Club - \$5,000.00
- Longfellow Rainbows - \$2,000.00
- Whittier - \$5,500.00
- Holmes POP Stars - \$14,000.00
- Brooks LAB - \$7,000.00
- Julian 10th Hour - \$4,000.00
- Middle School Math Enrichment Program - \$0.00
 - Motion to fund D97 programs at a total of \$67,900.00 by: Bob
 - Seconded by: Tom
 - Motion passes unanimously

- Park District of Oak Park – Scholarships
 - Motion to fund the total requested amount of \$8,000.00 by: Brenan
 - Seconded by Keith
 - Motion passes unanimously

Rationale: Committee members felt the Park District does a great job of recruiting low income, at risk youth and provides them with a variety of resources.

- Steckman Studios
 - Motion to fund them at \$18,000.00 by: Bob
 - Committee decides to hold off on a decision for this program at this time. They would like to do a site visit before revisiting this contract
- Excelerated
 - Motion to fund at \$8,400.00 (with the idea to revisit this contract again later) by: Pat
 - Seconded by Tom
- Jim
 - Motion to fund at full requested amount of \$14,467.65 by: Brenan
 - Seconded by: Bob
 - Motion passes unanimously with 1 recused (Marge) due to conflict of interest

Rationale: Students are energetic and engaged. Program has really embraced mentoring and the committee is happy to see that these students have gone on to mentor younger kids at the Early Childhood Center.

- Friday Night Place
 - Motion to fund at full requested amount of \$52,114.00 by: Tom
 - Seconded by: Willie
 - Motion passes unanimously

Rationale: Successful past history for this program.

- Parenthesis
 - Motion to fund at \$18,260.00 (OP portion) with RF paying a per person rate motioned by: Bob
 - Seconded by: Tom
 - Motion passes unanimously

Rationale: Committee feel that this is a targeted high-risk group and is serving that group directly.

Notes: Mentoring sessions will continue. Marge suggests inviting program administrators to come and do short presentations to the committee and feels like it would be beneficial for the committee members.

Marge Motions to adjourn at 9:52 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned at:

PM

Motioned by:

Seconded by: