



# YOUTH COMMISSION

Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center

1 School Street, Bethel, CT 06801

Telephone: (203) 794-8501

## Special Meeting

Saturday, April 5, 2008

Pro Access

## MINUTES

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TOWN OF BETHEL  
TOWN CLERK

Bethel Youth Commission Strategic Planning Meeting  
April 5, 2008

Present: Richard Merritt, Janice Stevenson, Melisa Pelikan

Meeting began at 10:07am with Richard Merritt stating the call to discuss organization and strategic planning for ProAccess.

Letters from Hilda DeLucia to Youth Commission members dated April 4, 2008 and March 5, 2008 related to the Youth Commission charter and strategic planning processes were reviewed.

Extensive discussion of items in the April 4<sup>th</sup> letter related to the Youth Commission charter ensued, with particular focus on items in the charter related to the study of needs of young persons with regard to employment, health, welfare and recreation as well as the analyzing of public and private services available to Bethel youth.

It was agreed by all present that the Youth Commission would seek information from private businesses, public services and organizations in town as related to current availability and utilization of programs and services which address the employment, health, welfare and recreational needs of Bethel residents ages 12 to 17 years old. This will be accomplished by sending letters to Bethel Police Department, Fire Department, library, Parks and Recreation, Social Services, Superintendent of Schools, Chamber of Commerce and area churches. Should the information related to employment not be available from the Chamber of Commerce, a letter will be mailed to individual members.

Once this information is received, it will be compiled and next steps in the strategic planning process will be taken with the Youth Commission charter as the guiding instrument. Specifically, the Commission will then assess the areas of need in Bethel and encourage development and coordination of youth programs to meet those needs.

Members present agree that it is the role of Youth Commission members to nurture, grow and support fund raising efforts to further the financial viability of ProAccess.

The next regular session of the Bethel Youth Commission is on April 15, 2008 at 6:45 pm. Discussed at this meeting for addition to that agenda were the recommendations from Pat Cosentino for ex-officio youth members (3 sophomores and 3 seniors). Given that term for this youth member is 2 years, Richard Merritt expressed that a sophomore would be a more desirable candidate.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

Respectfully submitted by Melisa Pelikan