

YOUTH COMMISSION
CJH MUNICIPAL CENTER
PARKS AND RECREATION ACTIVITY ROOM
1 SCHOOL STREET

BETHEL, CT. 06801
AUGUST 19, 2008
6:45 PM

RECEIVED

AUG 20 2008

TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK

MINUTES

PRESENT: Chairman, Richard Merritt, Members: Janice Stevenson, Lisa Bergh, Jane Kraver, and Melisa Pelikan. Absent: Kim Keough and Jerome Ochs.

Also Present: Claudia Fortunato, Assistant Director and Greg Musumeci

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Richard Merritt called the meeting to order at 6:50 PM. Note was made regarding the new location of the youth commission meetings. In the future meetings will be held in the Parks and Recreation activity room due to the poor conditions at the Pro-Access Teen Center.

INTRODUCTION OF EX-OFFICIO TEEN YOUTH COMMISSION

MEMBER/PUBLIC COMMENT: Chairman Merritt, introduced Gregory Musumeci to the commission members. All introduced themselves. Greg was glad for the opportunity to learn more about the town, he expressed a desire to become more involved with Pro-Access and he acknowledges that his exposure being an ex-officio member will aid in his application to the National Honor Society.

ACCEPTANCE OF JULY MINUTES: Janice Stevenson made a motion to approve the minutes of July 15, 2008. Motion seconded by Jane Kraver. Vote, motion accepted. Melisa Pelikan abstained.

DIRECTORS REPORT: Assistant Director Claudia Fortunato presented Pro-Access director Hilda Delucia's report in her absence (see attached). Chairman Merritt asked that the Membership update be broken out by gender; Melisa Pelikan asked that the previous month enrollment figures be included in the report for comparison. The popularity of the programs was discussed, Hilda was acknowledged for having come up with the wonderful Sportsplex program. Claudia spoke

of the giving club and the time involved with knitting for the "Christmas at sea" project. It was discussed that the project would be more productive if the Teen Center had a permanent home. In the last paragraph of the directors report Hilda addresses the situation as it now stands and the need for a home for Pro-Access. The commission members agree, to prevent the director from burning out, a permanent home is required. She offers several suggestions and it is agreed that discussion needs to focus on finding a permanent solution.

OLD BUSINESS:

Melisa Pelikan asked about letters previously discussed, and where we stood with that. Rich Merritt and Janice Stevenson asked Melisa to email the letter to them.

Chairman Merritt presented pictures to the commission of the deplorable conditions at the Teen Center (see attached). The pictures consist of the interior and exterior of the building. He asked that the minutes be distributed to the Board of Selectmen as well as the commission members.

Comcast has training sessions set for September 9th through October 14th every Tuesday evening from 4-6 to train the teens on production, camera and every aspect of producing a TV show. The show will be called PRO-ACCESS BETHEL TEENS.

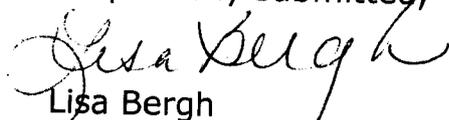
NEW BUSINESS:

Commission members discussed bringing to light the conditions of the Teen center, and the need for support. Several suggestions included having a table at the Scotty Fund picnic, being at every function in the downtown area, supplying water bottles with Pro-Access stickers, balloons, magnets, candy bars, etc. Media coverage of the plight of the Bethel Pro-Access Teen Center. Being present at the Board of Selectmen meetings. Chairman Merritt reminded the commission members of the next Board of Selectmen's meeting dated September 2, 2008. The next scheduled meeting for the Youth Commission will be September 16, 2008.

Motion to adjourn made by Jane Kraver, motion seconded by Janice Stevenson, Vote motion accepted.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM

Respectfully submitted,


Lisa Bergh
Recording Secretary