

**YOUTH COMMISSION**  
**CJH MUNICIPAL CENTER**  
**PARKS AND RECREATION ACTIVITY ROOM**  
**1 SCHOOL STREET**  
**APRIL 21, 2009**  
**6:45 PM**  
**MINUTES**

**RECEIVED**

APR 22 2009

TOWN OF BETHEL  
TOWN CLERK

**PRESENT:** Chairman, Richard Merritt, Members: Bob Korin, Lisa Bergh, Kim Keough, and Melisa Pelikan.

Absent: Jane Kraver, Jerome Ochs, and Ex-officio teen member Greg Musemeci

Also Present: Claudia Fortunato, Assistant Director for Hilda DeLucia who was on assignment.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Richard Merritt called the meeting to order at 6:46PM.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Greg Musemeci is actively searching for his replacement on the Youth Commission as Ex-Officio teen member. Greg will be graduating this coming June.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Amy Schumann, Teen Services Librarian notified Rich Merritt that a Teen Creative Writing course is being offered (information attached). Rich also reported that a \$500 Scholarship is available through the Library for graduating Bethel Students (information attached).

**ACCEPTANCE OF MARCH 24, 2009 MINUTES:** Kim Keough made a motion to accept the meeting minutes from March 24, 2009, motion was seconded by Bob Korin. Vote taken, motion passes. Lisa Bergh abstained.

**DIRECTORS REPORT:** Pro-Access Assistant Director Claudia Fortunato presented the directors report (see attached). Claudia reported that 18 kids have signed on for Relay for Life at the Bethel High School in June. Hilda hosted an organizational meeting at which the group picked out a name, and picked out some of the foods they

would like to sell now that Parks and Rec. has turned over the snack shop to Bethel Teens, Pro-Access. The maximum number that may participate will be 20. Only the teens willing to make the full commitment of attending organizational meetings will be permitted to participate.

Hilda will be looking into a cooking class with Dawn Gullusci, in order to determine interest in having this program, Hilda and Claudia will be having a cookie baking class at St Thomas next week free of charge.

Claudia mentioned that Bethel Middle School had a Bullying program that Hilda attended and found it to be extremely well done. Incorporating this subject into the Teens TV show was discussed. Rich stated that he would try and reserve an hour long live call in show if this was determined to be a topic we would want to cover.

Concern was expressed regarding the low enrollment and lack of participation of the 7<sup>th</sup> graders. Hilda to host a focus group at Famous Pizza. This should be a major focal point of the Youth Commission. Increasing 7<sup>th</sup> Grade participation is crucial.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Rich reported that the teens assisted with the Library's Bethel Blooms, the kids helped pansy patrons, blew up balloons, wore tee-shirts and paraded up and down Greenwood Avenue advertising. Melissa Pelikan's son Kevin was one of the kids participating.

Lisa Bergh contacted Dan Sieban who runs the Lacrosse program here in Bethel. He stated that at this time he is in the middle of a season and stretched pretty thin at the current time, but is more than willing and happy to help by attending a future Youth Commission meeting to explain the sport and possibly host a clinic later in the year. It was suggested that Dan might be able to attend our September 15, 2009 meeting.

Locks of Love is looking for a host salon/studio, Claudia mentioned the GP Room at the Municipal Center will be used.

Rich reported that the Library is in need of assistance on July 4<sup>th</sup> Centennial Program. Please contact Debbie at **Debith111@comcast.net**

Pro-Access teen show is doing very well, Rich to look into having the kids trained on remote cameras.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Ex-officio teen member Greg Musemeci will be leaving his post this year, The Commission is looking to find out when his last meeting will be.

Bob Korin made a motion to form a student advisory sub-committee to be chaired by the Ex-Officio teen member. Motion was seconded by Lisa Bergh.

Discussion on the motion:

Will the kids want to participate?, it might serve us well to consult with the student council members, Student Advisory sub-committee meetings do not have to be held every month, possibly quarterly. Instead of having the sub-committee members come to the monthly Youth Commission meetings, it might serve us better for a member to attend an event where they can be approached for input/brainstorming on their terms.

Vote taken, motion unanimously passed. Details to follow.

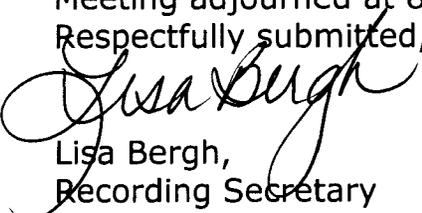
Rich mentioned that he questioned Bob Burke last week on the appropriated funds of \$150,000.00 designated for the Teen Center. Mr. Burke stated the funds are currently in limbo. Chairman Merritt has sent emails to State Senator McLachlan and State Rep. David Scribner. Hopefully information to follow.

Next regular meeting scheduled for May 19, 2009.

Melisa Pelikan made a motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Kim Keough. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa Bergh,  
Recording Secretary

I. Membership Update

Grade	April # of members	March. # of members	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
					March	
7	33	30	16	17	14	16
8	87	87	33	54	33	54
Freshman	46	46	10	36	10	36
Sophomore	40	40	14	26	14	26
Juniors	25	23	5	20	5	18
Seniors	28	28	15	13	15	13
Totals	259 2% increase	254	93	166	91	163

II. Program Attendance (see report)

III. Meetings:

- a. Relay for Life meeting with kids
- b. Met with Relay for Life chairperson to discuss snack shed responsibilities
- c. Met with Dawn Gullusci "The Whole Foods Lady" to discuss cooking program for Pro Access
- d. Spoke to Markus Balas by phone regarding website
- e. Attended Bullying program at BMS by invitation from Dr. Smith

IV. Events/Programs for discussion

- a. Five new events:
  - i. Dodgeball Games...this Friday evening
  - ii. Wrestling Tournament this Saturday!
  - iii. Escape boys clips and highlights for girls being offered May 5<sup>th</sup>. Cost: \$5/kid \$5/Pro Access pays
  - iv. Have received approval from Sat Nam Yoga Studio to use their studio for a "girls sleepover!" Awe will have 8 – eighth grade girls and 7 – seventh grade girls. Tentative date is Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup>. Cost to use Sat Nam is \$100.
  - v. 6 week cooking program will be offered beginning on Manday May 4<sup>th</sup>. Postcards next week's cooking class will promote the program. Cost \$10/kid Pro Access pays \$100 for instructor per class plus food costs. This is the best quote she could give me. It's lowered quite a bit from the initial proposal.
- b. Job Bank – spoke to Newtown Youth Services about their job bank – nothing new was learned. I will email Melissa and Bob to set up a date to brainstorm concept and ideas for this program.
- c. 7<sup>th</sup> Grade focus group – spoke to Mr. Muharem, are coming up with a date for me to do a presentation to the entire 7<sup>th</sup> grade about Pro Access. At that presentation, I will invite them to a meeting at Famous Pizza the next day for a "focus group" – Dates have not yet been finalized

V. Fundraising – nothing to report

VI. Donations – nothing to report

VII. Employee Update – nothing to report except that we celebrated Claudia's 1year anniversary in style on PT Barnum Square during our Egg Scavenger Hunt!

VIII. Website Update am currently having discussions with designer about website

IX. Public Hearing March 26, 2009 – Thanks to Bob who did a great job outlining the costs and services provided to the Finance Committee. Terry Nackid also spoke on our behalf.

March 24, 2008 - April 17, 2009  
PRO ACCESS ACTIVITY REPORT

	Activity	Target Audience	Date	Number attended	Comments
1	Uniquely Me	7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Girls	March 23	6	
2	Games and...	7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Graders	March 24	6	
3	Comcast Filming	All Members	March 24	7	
4	Curves	All Members	March 24	7	
5	Famous Pizza	7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Graders	March 25	18	
6	Comcast Live Filming	All Members	March 25	7	
7	Games and...	High Schoolers	March 26	7	
8	Cascades	All Members	March 26	3	
9	Basketball Tournament	All Members	March 27	31	
10	Uniquely Me	7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Girls	March 30	4	
11	Games and...	7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Graders	March 31	6	
12	Curves	All Members	March 31	3	
13	Comcast Filming	All Members	March 31	5	
14	\$5 Manicures	All Members	April 1	16	
15	Games and...	High Schoolers	April 2	7	
16	Open Gym	High Schoolers	April 3	11	
17	Uniquely Me	7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Grils	April 6	2	
18	Scavenger Hunt	7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Graders	April 7	16	
19	Famous Pizza	Relay for Life Meeting	April 8	18	
20	Famous Pizza	High Schoolers	April 9	6	
Note: No programs scheduled week of April 13-April 17 due to Spring Break.					
Total participants served in March/April				186	Avg = 9 participants per program
In Feb/March there were 27 programs with 293 participants					Avg = 11 participants per program



Richard Merritt <ycchairman@gmail.com>

## Celebrate the Centennial in Words!

1 message

Amy Schumann, Teen Services Librarian <teen@bethellibrary.org>

Tue, Apr 21, 2009 at 12:43 PM

Reply-To: teen@bethellibrary.org

To: richardemerritt@aol.com

## Teen Creative Writing Celebrate the Library's Centennial!

**Dear Richard,**

Join us for this creative writing session  
focusing on the Library's 100 year birthday!

Focus on the Future

### Writing Science Fiction: Focus on the Future



**Thursday, April 23, 2009  
6:45-7:45 pm**

What will Bethel look like in 2109? What will life  
be like? Learn some ways to make your writing--even science  
fiction and fantasy--more believable and realistic.



Space is limited and registration is  
required.

Please register by stopping by, calling  
the Teen Services Department at (203)

794-8756, ext. 0, or email the Teen Library.

All programs sponsored by the Bethel Public Library are open to the public and meet accessibility requirements for the disabled. Those needing special accommodations should contact the library at least 2 weeks prior to the program date to make arrangements.

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Bethel Public Library | Bethel Public Library | 189 Greenwood Avenue | Bethel | CT | 06801



Richard Merritt <ycchairman@gmail.com>

## Scholarship Available from Bethel Library

1 message

Lynn Rosato <newsletter@bethellibrary.org>

Mon, Apr 13, 2009 at 6:45 AM

Reply-To: newsletter@bethellibrary.org

To: richardemerritt@aol.com



### *Bethel Public Library Board of Directors Scholarship Fund Award*

**For information  
contact:**

Bethel Public Library  
189 Greenwood  
Avenue  
Bethel, Connecticut  
06801

203-794-8756 ext 6

Applications  
are due at the  
Library no later  
than 5:00 p.m.  
on April 24,  
2009.

#### **\$500 Scholarship to a Bethel Senior**

This one-year \$500.00 scholarship is granted to a high school senior who is a resident of the the Town of Bethel, Connecticut, and who plans to attend an accredited degree granting institution.

#### **Scholarship Applications**

Scholarship applications may be picked up at the Circulation Desk of the Bethel Public Library or the Bethel High School Guidance Office. Or you may download the application for completion at [www.bethellibrary.org](http://www.bethellibrary.org)

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# Bethel Public Library Board of Directors Scholarship Fund Award

This one-year \$500.00 Scholarship is granted to a high school senior who is a resident of the Town of Bethel, Connecticut, and who plans to attend an accredited degree granting institution.

Please complete all items on the application form. Submit the completed form, as well as the two recommendations and the 250- word essay to your school's Guidance Office no later than April 24, 2009, and delivered to the Bethel Public Library before 5:00 p.m. on April 24, 2009.