



LEWIS COUNTY YOUTH BUREAU

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Penny (Demo) Moser, Director

Lewis County Youth Bureau Advisory Board

Minutes of November 28, 2018

Scott Mathys called the meeting to order at 4:02pm. The meeting was held at the Lewis County Court House, 2nd Floor in the Legislative Chambers.

Present: John Exford-Co-Chair, Scott Mathys, Kallie Bauter-Student Representative-South Lewis Central School District, Deanna Edick, Kirstin Moshier-Student Representative Lowville Academy, Michele Ledoux, Victoria Boliver-Student Representatives Beaver River Central, and Ward Dailey,
Others Present: John Lehman-Chairperson Youth Bureau Legislative Committee, Tom Osborne-Legislator, Randy LaChausse-Legislator and Penny Moser, Director Lewis County Youth Bureau.
Excused: Tom Osborne-Legislator, Elizabeth McGuire-Co Chair; Chloe Benson and Justine Schmidt-Student Representative Harrisville Central, Madeline Lehman-Student Representative Lowville Academy, Mike Leviker, Brian Finn and Rhonda Vanucchi.

Introductions and Welcome:

Minutes: Review of the August 15th; September 19th; and October 17, 2018, Youth Bureau Advisory Board Meeting minutes. Due to lack of quorum approval of the minutes had not yet been acted on. **Michele Ledoux moved to accept the minutes of all three Youth Bureau Advisory Board meetings as written; Victoria Boliver seconded; Passed.**

Presentation: Scott Mathys introduced Dan Myers, from Double Play Community Center. Mr. Myers thanked the board for inviting him to provide an overview of their youth development programs. Our mission is to improve the quality of life twelve months a year for all community members. Double Play is committed to generating revenue to support and remain a valued resource in the community. Rebecca Kogut, from Double Play talked about the need to expand the B.A.T.S. (Building Across the Street) program. This program will be beginning, their 3rd year of existence. B.A.T.S is an afterschool program and was created based on the need for safe, fun, afterschool activities for youth residing in Southern Lewis County. Organizers came together under the Lewis County: It's Real & It's Local drug prevention efforts as they saw a need to create a safe, inspiring place for young people to have fun and grow. Collaborating agencies that in one way or another helped with the success of this program, includes local mayors, church representatives, South Lewis High School Faculty and Youth Advisory Council, community volunteers and the Lewis County Youth Bureau. The program has grown from one day per week to two with approximately 24 youth attending (Middle School BATS are grades 5-6 & 7-8 and High School BATS are grades 9-12). The B.A.T.S. program provides the formation of connections between teens and their community while providing fun, healthy, educational opportunities. Scott Mathys asked how can the community help to support the program? Rebecca replied that more volunteers, healthy snacks as well as monetary donations are always needed.

The monetary donations help to purchase supplies for projects as well as pay rent on the B.A.T.S building. Mr. Myers reported that they have teamed up with the UP! Coalition to provide free guitar classes and a create a video and film club. The Video and Film Club will provide an enrichment opportunity for youth who do not have access or avenues to express their creativity through use of video and film making. The program will allow teens to express their views and bring awareness to social and personal issues on their own level. Mr. Myers stated that 2-years ago, the Lewis County Board of Legislators approved a grant in the amount of \$40,000, which was a phenomenal help in developing programs. He also thanked the Youth Bureau Board for supporting grant applications over the past few years for their Youth Lego program and most recently their B.A.T.S. program. Mr. Myers reported that as Double play continues to expand and broaden our goal is to build a Community Center. He distributed Double Play Community Center's 2017 Annual Report.

Old Business:

Annual "Homeless Christmas Tree" Initiative-Harrisville Satellite Tree: Penny reported that the Youth Bureau's "Homeless Christmas Tree initiative is off and running. This Annual Initiative began November 19th and runs through December 21, 2019. Peyton Schmitt, a student at Harrisville Central School District has a satellite "Homeless Christmas Tree" at his school district as part of his community services project. Thank you, Peyton! Additionally, a mom of a 10-year old girl named Olivia who had, came to see me. Olivia asked me if she could help with the "Homeless Christmas Tree." Olivia will be helping to box up items donated. Thank you, Olivia! ***The packing up date has been scheduled for Thursday, December 27th from 9am until done at the Lewis County Chamber of Commerce.** ***We are still in need of volunteers. Please let Penny know if you will be helping.

New Business

2019 Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS)-Youth Development Funds: Penny reported that OCFS has not yet released 2019 funding allocations, therefore recommended that the Youth Bureau hold off on announcing the availability of funds and sending out requests for proposals, until OCFS releases the allocation amounts. **Youth Bureau Board Members agreed.**

2018 Youth Bureau Annual Report: Scott reported that Penny has begun collecting information for the 2018 Youth Bureau Annual Report. Board Members who would like to contribute by putting in a sentence or two about their experience on the board, please email your submission to Penny by **December 14th.**

Review of Board Application Packet- The Board Application Packet was distributed for review and comment. The document was created a few years ago by an Ad Hoc Committee of the Youth Bureau. The document is intended to be utilized when seeking out "Community" board members. To date we have not had to utilize the document. However, Penny reported that Katie Zehr, a former staff member at Lewis County Opportunities, and who has volunteered multiple times for youth bureau programs/events including Lewis County Night Out, has expressed interest in being appointed to the board. Katie resides in Lewis County and works at PIVOT (a prevention awareness agency much like Mountain View Prevention Services) in Watertown. **The board reviewed the document with no comments or changes noted.** * Penny asked approval to send Ms. Zehr a Board Application, have

her complete it and then she will email the document to the board for review and comment. If consensus is received to appoint Ms. Zehr to the board, Penny will then submit a resolution to the Lewis County Board of Legislators to appoint Ms. Zehr to the Youth Bureau Board for a 2-year term.

The board approved the request and process.

Next Meeting: The Youth Bureau **will not** be meeting in December. The next meeting has been scheduled for **Wednesday, January 16, 2019 at 4pm** at the Lewis County Courthouse, 2nd Floor in the Legislative Chambers.

Adjournment: Victoria Boliver moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:43pm; Kirstin Moshier seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Penny L. Moser, Director
Lewis County Youth Bureau Advisory Board