



LEWIS COUNTY YOUTH BUREAU

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Penny L. Demo, Director

Lewis County Youth Bureau Advisory Board

Minutes of October 18, 2017 meeting

Scott Mathys called the meeting to order at 4:10pm. The meeting was held at the Lewis County Court House, 2nd Floor in the Legislative Chambers.

Present: Scott Mathys, Kristin Moshier--Student Representative-Lowville Academy, Mike Leviker, Victoria Boliver-Student Representatives-Beaver River, and Brian Finn. **Others Present:** Roscoe Fawcett, Chairperson of the Youth Bureau Legislative Committee and Legislator Andrea Moroughan. **Excused:** John Exford and Jacob Hartle-Co-Chairs; Madeline Lehman-Vice Chairperson and Student Representative Lowville Academy; Michelle Ledoux; Ward Dailey, Rhonda Vanucchi and Legislator Greg Kulzer. **Guest Present:** Tara Martin-Student at Beaver River Central School District.

Introductions and Welcome: Penny introduced Tara Martin, a student at BRCS, who expressed interest in being appointed to the Lewis County Youth Bureau board. Tara will be attending meetings at her discretion as a potential successor for appointment as a representative from Beaver River beginning June 2018. In May 2018, Tara will advise if she would like her name submitted for appointment

Minutes: Review of the August 16, 2017 board meeting minutes. The notes were not acted on due to lack of quorum. Due to the lack of quorum at today's meeting, discussion was held on the importance of commitment in attending meetings when being appointed on boards. If you are unable to attend a meeting, it is very important that you let Penny know prior to the meeting.

Old Business

2017 Annual "Lewis County Night Out" (LCNO) event – Review: The annual event was sponsored by the Lewis County Youth Bureau, Lewis County Sheriff's Office, Lewis County Opportunities, Inc., and the Northern Regional Center for Independent Living. The event was designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness. The event was held on Friday, September 8th from 5:30pm-7:30pm at the Lewis County Fairgrounds. The event was a success with an estimated 325 people in attendance. During the opening ceremony, we recognized local and neighboring Ambulance Services. Thank you to youth bureau members who helped make the event a success. A special thank you to Brian Finn who had students from Lowville Academy set up tables and chairs the day before the event and Mike Leviker who posted LCNO signs and posters throughout the county. Roscoe Fawcett, Legislative Chairperson, congratulated the Youth Bureau membership on the success of the event.

New Business

Appointment of Student Representatives: Kimmy Dolan and Annabelle Atnip-Students from Copenhagen Central School District, have elected to represent Copenhagen Central on the Lewis County Youth Bureau. A resolution appointing them to the board has been submitted, and is anticipated to be approved by the Lewis County Board of Legislators at their November 2017 Board of Legislators meeting.

“Homeless Christmas Tree” Initiative: This “Homeless Christmas Tree” is organized by the Lewis County Youth Bureau and is an initiative for collecting donations of personal hygiene, kitchen, and bath supplies (items needed when individuals or families “start over”). There are many reasons that families and individuals find themselves “out in the cold” including job loss, illness, and addictions. Donated items are stored at the Lewis County Department of Social Services where they are readily available for the homeless, economically vulnerable, and those who have lost their homes to fire. Our “Homeless Tree” will again this year be displayed, in the window at the Lewis County Chamber of Commerce beginning November 27th thru December 22, 2017.

2017 Youth Bureau Annual Report: Each year an annual report that contains the makeup of the Youth Bureau’s Government, Administration, and Advisory Board as well as captures an overview of youth programs funded through the board, including, projects, initiatives, and events that the board sponsors/or co-sponsors, as well as the Youth Bureau’s community involvement. The finished report is submitted to the Office of Children and Family Services as well as Lewis County Officials, and is posted on the Youth Bureau website at www.lewiscountyny.org. To enhance the 2017 report, board members were asked to contribute to the report by submitting a short (a couple of sentences) on the topic of “What it means to me to be on the Lewis County Youth Bureau Advisory Board.” Submissions should be emailed to Penny by the end of November 2017.

Development of Youth Bureau Advisory Board Application form: Per the Youth Bureau By-Laws, the Youth Bureau shall have 13 – 28 members. Currently we have eighteen (18) members and four (4) Ex-Officio Members-meaning a member by virtue of the office they hold and maintain all privileges of membership, but shall not be counted for the purpose of a quorum nor cast a vote. Although we currently have a “solid” number on the board, we have not utilized or developed an official “Lewis County Youth Bureau Advisory Board Application Form.” Developing and utilizing such a form to replace or add more Community Members and or Student Representatives, could be a helpful tool in seeking out potential board members. Penny distributed a DRAFT of what the Lewis County Youth Bureau application form may look like. Some of the information came from other sources including other Youth Bureau’s and Lewis County Opportunities, Inc. Penny asked the youth bureau for comment as to if they would like to recruit membership as needed, utilizing such a form and if so, requested suggestions they would like made to the document (Please email Penny with any suggestions to be changed or added to the document by October 31, 2017). At the November board meeting, we will vote on utilizing the Board Application document.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 15, 2017 at 4pm at the Lewis County Courthouse, 2nd Floor in the Legislative Chambers.

The meeting ended at 4:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Penny L. Demo, Director
Lewis County Youth Bureau