

**New Fairfield Youth Commission (NFYC)
Special Meeting Minutes
March 20, 2017**

Meeting Participants: Craig Rosen, Amy Mikolay, Jennifer Amabile, Claire Luks, Nadia Ariola, Jena Alviti

Meeting called to order by Craig Rosen at 7:04 pm

Selection of Chairman:

Craig Rosen was self nominated as Chairman. Amy Mikolay seconded. Nomination accepted and approved.

Amy Mikolay was appointed as Recording Secretary. Craig advised Amy that meeting minutes will need to be filed with the Town within 48 hours due to the voting that took place.

Craig informed the Board that the town is welcome to participate in meetings, with the exception of Executive Session. The NFYC is an official commission of the town.

Goals and objectives:

Craig distributed copies of the tenants of the NFYC to the Board.

General population we plan to serve at the beginning: 4th – 8th graders, to start.

Our goal is to have activities that kids want to participate in. NFYC will have to start small and slow until we have a permanent place. Craig shared blueprints at last meeting. The NFYC will collaborate with Park and Rec in on a site at Town Beach which will be available all year long for the NFYC usage. P&R are currently raising funds as this building has to be self-funded. They are estimating \$600-800k to complete this project.

The Long-Term Goal is to have a New Fairfield Recreation Center in the Town of New Fairfield.

We will seek donations. Donations can certainly be made to the NFYC. However they are not tax-deductible. Checks can be made to either Town or Youth Commission.

NFYC currently has a budget of 1k per year. There is approximately 10k in account which is administered by the Town. Craig believes the town will share statements related to the NFYC with Craig for review moving forward.

Craig will ask Selectman Chapman for a designated NFYC email address.

Jena will create a Google docs and/or or drop box for NFYC for files, calendars etc. In addition she has agreed to set up both a Facebook and Twitter Account. The Board Members will all be Admins on the Facebook page. Subscribers must approved to ensure they are current or prior town residents.

Logo - Jena put feelers out to some graphic designers for some assistance with a logo for NFYC. It was discussed that perhaps we hold a logo contest for High School aged students. Craig will work on a program to send to students with the approval of Superintendent Roy. The contest winner could be announced at Board of Ed meeting where it is recorded.

Update on event locations:

Claire provided a run down on the information she received from her recent contact with Company A Firehouse. The venue holds 350, 214 as a sit down. Unfortunately there is no storage available for us to use. The general rental fee is \$350 or 10% gross take. NFYC rate would be whatever we could donate. Cleanup has to be done at close of event. With this said, the Firemen/Firewomen take precedence. Saturday or Sundays are not available as they are for events. Friday would have to be out by 6 pm.

We need to get the word out that we are looking for venues to host events. Once we open ourselves up on Facebook we will need to be prepared for lots of questions from the community.

Additional sites discussed Community Room at the Children's Library. Easy places kids can get to afterschool. New Life and Congregational Churches.

Volunteers:

We are birthing a Youth Center! Let's develop this as a Community. Let's ask the community for their ideas and certainly for their time.

Volunteer vetting – The general consensus is to have volunteer parents complete the town standard fingerprinting/background check process. Craig will query to Alicia Roy on the process the Board of Education uses. Anyone under 18 they would not have to participate in this process.

An adult volunteer will need to be present at each activity hosted by the NFYC.

We are looking for volunteers to supervise events, share their talents in essential life skills; sewing, cooking, crochet/knitting, yoga / meditation. Good Old fashioned games, cards, chess etc.

Perhaps will donate a suggested amount to participate in events.

Motion to adjourn was made by Amy Mikolay and Claire Luks seconded. All in favor. **Meeting adjourned** at 8:04 pm.