

Mary J. Sherlach Counseling Center

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MARY J. SHERLACH COUNSELING CENTER BOARD MEETING

May 23, 2016

MINUTES

Present: Dorian Williams, Lynda Gabrielson, Jennifer Hrbek, Christine Marin

Absent: Timothy Fedor

Also Present: Coleen Figliuzzi, Robin Bieber

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

Jennifer Hrbek approved the Minutes of the March 7, 2016 Board Meeting as presented.

Coleen Figliuzzi notified the Board that the 2016/17 Counseling Center budget, which includes the addition of a part-time counselor, was approved as presented by the Board of Finance. For this part-time counselor position, we are seeking candidates who have experience and certification in substance abuse and addiction counseling. Posting of the position will occur in early June, followed by interviews of qualified applicants and the selection process. The successful candidate's expected start date is July 1st.

Prior to the meeting, Chante' Moreno advised that her efforts to start an informal support group at THS will continue in the fall.

Coleen discussed the efforts of the First Selectman's Drug Prevention Task Force and the Trumbull Shares Panel Presentation on Substance Abuse held on April 26th at the McClinch Family Center, St. Catherine of Siena Parish. Addiction Specialist John Hamilton was the Moderator. Presenters included Police Chief Michael Lombardo and Melissa McGarry of T.P.A.U.D. Topics included Facts about Substance Abuse and Addiction, Substance Abuse in Trumbull, and How and Where to Access Help.

Robin Bieber provided an overview of the upcoming Wildflower Adventure Group summer activities, which include a Zip-Line Canopy Tour, Sailing and Kayaking day trips and Waterskiing, Wake Boarding and Tubing, Hiking and Horseback Riding, and Surfing overnight trips. A Discovery Museum twilight outing will be planned for early fall.

JoAnne Veltri informed the Board that the Health Fair, organized by the PTA as an introduction to healthy living at the middle-school level, was held at Hillcrest this year. Promotional materials and giveaways to promote the services of the Counseling Center were ordered for the Center's table, staffed by JoAnne, Victor and Chante'. This event was a huge success and, as in the past, will lead to client referrals.

Prior to the meeting, Victor Olsen provided intern updates: Intern Rob Preli from Fairfield University completed his internship in April, and Linda Palmieri, a Southern Connecticut State University student, will be working with us through August. Intern candidates from Southern, Central and Fairfield University were interviewed, and a new intern was selected to start in July.

Intern Linda Palmieri will facilitate a Family Constellations Workshop for adults, individual, parents or couples at the Trumbull Public Library on June 23rd. The workshop provides a creative way of seeing into the hidden family dynamics that shape people's lives and the challenges they experience that may affect them and their children. Through the process, participants will learn how to make deeper connections to loved ones.

The Chess Club programs at Hillcrest and Madison Middle Schools have been successful this year. Continuing the popular programs in the fall is contingent upon continued state-grant funding.

The Stern Village Mental Health Support Group will not meet this summer. The group may reconvene in the fall if required by residents there.

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 15, 2016 at 7:00 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnne Veltri
Clerk of the Board