



AMPLIFY

Avon YSAB/ LPC Meeting

October 29, 2020 6:30PM

GoTo meeting – Avon Youth Services

Meeting Minutes

In Attendance:

Suzi Alexe, Youth Service Coordinator

Christine Pescatore, Social Services Assistant

Liam Alexe, Avon High School Student

Auradhya Kumar, Avon High School Student

Ryan Steremberg, Avon High School Student

Mary Grace Bruder, Avon High School Student

Officer John O'Neill, Avon Police Department, School Resource Officer

Marisa Hicking, Teen Librarian, Avon Free Public Library

Heather Toyen, Avon High School Counselor

Taylor Armstrong, College Student

Maria Mazzicato, Community Member

Meeting called to order at 6:37pm

I. Welcome and Introductions, Communication from the audience (limited to five minutes)

- Welcome to Mary Grace Bruder thank you for joining us.
- Suzi explained that the YSAB promotes positive youth development and prevention programming i.e.: internet safety, prevention of substance abuse and juvenile delinquency and truancy.
- Amplify funding this year for prevention requires a major focus on vaping. Suzi asked for ideas such as PSAs. Maria M suggested a contest with prizes.

II. YSB Coordinator update of postponed Programs (Suzi Alexe)

- **Angst Presentation/Program-Postponed from Winter 2020 to Spring 2021 - Suzi Alexe, Christine Pescatore, AMS/AHS PTO Partnership** – some towns have chosen to do program virtually, Avon has chosen to wait until we can have it in person

III. Updates on Current Programs

- **Thanksgiving and Winter Basket Program (Suzi Alexe/Christine Pescatore/Jim Martino)** – Ryan will ask the Avon Club @ the High School if they help.
- **Input from Student Leaders regarding topics that concern Youth.** Ryan and A.K. stated that full hybrid students struggle when all children are in class as it is hard to hear the teacher when he/she moves away from the laptop. Heather Toyen suggested that a gentle email reminder to the teacher would be a good fix.
- **Recruit Youth for the Board and Community Projects** – Thank you to the youth that have joined the board, please feel free to invite your friends to join as well. Suzi asked for ideas for more projects, feel free to email her with ideas.
- **Holiday Card Making for Senior Citizens made by Avon Teens (Suzi Alexe, Christine Pescatore, Marisa Hicking)** Marisa's TAB team is heading up this program, will be giving out Card Making Kits and bags to return cards.
- **Friday 10/30/2020 from 2 to 4pm, partner with Avon Public Library providing Wellness and Stress reducing information @Courtyard check-out (Suzi Alexe, Marisa Hicking)** * Postponed until 11/3 and 11/6 due to weather.
- **Suzi has reached out to a Horse Rescue in Avon, which does equine therapy.** – The rescue currently has teen volunteers and is always looking for more. May partner in the future for program(s).

IV. Avon Police Department Update and JRB (SRO – O'Neill)

- JRB has been put on hold due to Covid-19.
- There have been no new referrals to JRB

- Partners in Prevention/Truancy/School Refusal Behaviors – there have been no behavioral issues in the schools, kids have been following the Covid-19 protocols with masks and shields.

V. Community of Concern/ Local Prevention Council - Updates

- **AMPLIFY funding for effects of Vaping and Prevention Programming for 2020/2021.** – Will ask new community officer for input. (Officer Lundell has been promoted to Sgt., a new community officer is coming).
- **CYSA Conference –Anti-Racism and Understanding Implicit Bias Training - November 2020 via Zoom – Suzi Alexe** - Virtual conference is on November 12th 9am -12pm at no cost. All are welcome to attend. There will be two speakers from the State of CT.

VI. Adjournment

Next meeting will be in January 2021 via Go to meetings Christine will send date out by mid-November.