

BLOOMINGTON UNITED FOR YOUTH
Meeting Minutes
Sept 27, 2011

Present: Erick Abramson, Maureen Bartolotta, Marilyn Donoho, Paul Fourniea, Lauren Crew, Kari Hemp, Cindy McInroy, Tom Ringdal, Julie Zamora

BUSINESS REPORTS

Secretary (Cindy Mc): May & June minutes approved (MB motion, LC second). July minutes approved as submitted by Maureen Bartolotta (CMc motion, LC second). There was no August meeting.

Treasurer (Brad R): no update

Lauren ? about how much Central Grounds has available – from July report \$10,447.65

Cindy ? – when is Central Grounds insurance due?

UPDATES

BloomingtonYouth.org (Tom R because Ishan Sahu ill):

New website now can be directly accessed by the school district computers. Encourage other Apple users to please try to make sure that link www.bloomingtonyouth.org goes directly to the new web page. Please report issues to tom@bectv.org

URGENT: need Dibs on website loaded with Central Grounds dates and times needing adult volunteer supervisors so people can go directly there to sign up (Maureen B does via direct contact in email on her cell right now, time consuming and only a week at a time). NOTE: in order for people to sign up they will need to register on the website first.

Ishan will contact Lauren if he does not have the dates/times that CG will be open through December 2011.

Contact appropriate person at TST Media to let them know that the new spirit wear is not on the website with the BUY logo as was decided on at the June meeting (B with the wording after it like on the header of the web page)

Need You Tube link to YAC Grandma PSA's on home page and/or under media

Did Bloomington Crow article about Box City donation ever get published so could be posted to website on News page and Box City info?

Ed Foundation grant thank you needs to be moved to CG page

Oasis for Youth (Marilyn D):

NEEDED: bus passes for MTC that are in the back of local coupon books (Happenings, Chinook Book, MOA visitor book). Oasis uses many bus tokens so any extra are welcomed!

Ready to go for overnight emergency housing at Oak Grove Presbyterian. When utilized there are 2 overnight adult trained volunteers (Oasis has an "on call list" of available volunteers). 7 PM to 7 AM housing, shower, laundry and then bus token or ride to school/work in morning. 5 day stay limit to find alternate place (often with family or friends)

? asked about contact with Minneapolis shelters using the church overnight model: Marilyn said that Oasis tries not to send youth to the primarily adult shelter sites in Minneapolis, but that they based the Bloomington overnight program on the Families Moving Forward model

⊕Took 6 weeks this summer to find a youth shelter spot for one youth from the south metro.

Held information session in Bloomington for possible host homes – 3 families expressed interest in doing, 1 committed to going through the training. Sessions in conjunction with Point Northwest, Teens Alone and Act for Youth. Also held sessions in Brooklyn Park and Eden Prairie. Home hosts youth for 18 to 21 months in general (usually a school year), but can be shorter or longer. Program modeled after Avenues for Youth's GLBT program.

Oasis "team" is working on grants/fundraising for rent subsidy options for youth 18 to 21 who have a job and need support to have a home. Would also involve training the youth in tenant rights and responsibilities, budgeting, and other classes in self-sufficiency. Amount of subsidy would be stepped down across 2 year timeframe.

School year has started with 3 "regulars" coming in for assistance. Possible one youth place in shelter may be returning back to overnight program.

Almost completed with their nonprofit organization status approval.

BEC-TV (Paul F):

Moving this week and next into "new" old studio space after being displaced into boxes and random temporary quarters all summer.

Working feverishly to finish new broadcast truck so ready for training at Channel 45 for 100+ students to be in charge of fall state football playoffs broadcast.

Central Grounds (Lauren C):

Grand opening yesterday (9/27) with about 6 kids there.

Flyers put up at Jefferson for volunteers to sign up. Lauren is organizing student volunteers to train in. She will always meet them and unlock site, then they will stay and supervise when Lauren has to leave for work. Some doing for initial community service hours with Lauren's hope that then they will stay involved in CG.

Wanting to do a Jaguar Spots story on but broadcast crew at Jefferson already decided on other story, will keep trying to get done this year. Paul will get an Impact or news story video going for airing at Kennedy (and maybe general enough video story about CG that it can be aired at Jefferson or other media places as well).

Keys now on marked key ring and left at receptionist window at Creekside in a drawer there. Person has to ask for keys and turn them back in when they are locking up (Tom R pointed out that supposed to report how many teens were there as well). Maureen B will get a notebook for a log book so that teen supervisor(s) and adult supervisor can sign in, record # of kids there that night and amount of money collected for food/drinks

Lauren and Ellen Berkowitz met to brainstorm ideas to draw kids in and have them actively doing things there:

Competition Wednesdays : Lauren brought in board games, bocce available outside. Looking into getting gift card donations from local businesses to hand out to winners.

Music or Movie Fridays

? about using available funds to purchase a TV. Suggested that consider purchasing a projector instead so that DVDs can be run through a laptop and shown on wall in CG, or in larger spaces available at Creekside (Library, MN Valley Room). Also could run game systems through projector. Cable television is not available to CG (stated in contract with City), but could do Netflix streaming through a laptop and the projector.

No student lead/connection identified from Kennedy yet. Brenna Carberry was name given by Rachel B at June meeting. Some other names suggested, Paul F. will follow up with to confirm with Brenna and see if others interested in. Then will get them in contact with Lauren.

Looking into printing t-shirts through same vendor as did Box City 2011 ones. Reminder to let BUY members know so that can purchase, as well as to make available for sale through the BUY website.

Sign: Julie Z. informed some members of possible grant money to pay for sign, brochures, etc. for a BUY initiative. Approx \$300 available, but must be designated through a submitted invoice by this Friday (9/29). CG logo file was to be forwarded to Laurie Masanz, graphics specialist at Bloomington Public Health, by Rachel in early summer so Laurie could lay out sign (at no expense to BUY, was authorized by public health manager as within one of their areas). Laurie also needed the specs for the sign so that she could know how to lay it out. Cindy Mc. will check with Fast Signs in Bloomington about cost of a roll out banner sign to stand in the hall outside door of CG and ask if an invoice prior to payment is possible. She will also get specs and art format needed and let Laurie M know. Julie Z will find out if the invoice needs to be made out to BUY or to someone specific, or if there is a specific procedure for the grant money to pay for the sign.

Background checks: Tom will look through mail that came during BECTV transition to see if those submitted to state last spring came through. Suggested that new volunteers 18 and over follow the process below from Bureau of Criminal Apprehension rather than going through form on BUY website (those are ones that get held up). Give background check to Cindy Mc for CG files.

Q: How can I obtain a copy of my own criminal history record?

You may request a printed copy of your own criminal history record by writing or visiting the BCA office. You will receive both public and private data. Written requests must include:

Full name with correct spelling, date of birth, and any other names used, including maiden and former married names.

Enclose a personal check, money order, cashier's check, certified or business check, for \$8.00 made payable to the BCA.

Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Response time for mail requests is approximately two weeks. The Mailing address is:

**Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension
Criminal Justice Information Systems - CHA
1430 Maryland Ave. E.
St. Paul, MN 55106**

Tri-City Partners (Julie Z):

“Planning for Success” retreat being held 9/28. Invited all Tri-City members and interested parties from schools, police departments, government, business, youth serving organizations and youth. Will be doing strategic planning as to ways to best serve the youth in the 3 cities with focus on reducing substance use and abuse, including identifying barriers to youth accessing services and how to remove those barriers.

In year 8 of a 10 year grant so also need to address sustainability issues for when grant ends.

Box City 2011

Per Rachel in June - new leadership is Kennedy students: Maddy Murdock, Drew Skog, and Arthur Harris

Need to get contact information for these students so that one of them is at BUY meetings for status updates

Job Fair 2011:

No update. New youth leaders are Amanda Eisse and Ellen Berkowitz (also need their contact information so can get BUY information) Dwight Geissler is the Daymakers Rotary contact.

Bloomington Youth Action Crew (YAC)

Youth Action Crews in both cities (Bloomington last year, Richfield previous year) have officially ended.

Cindy Mc will contact Carolyn Anderson to get involved kids names and contact info to invite to participate in BUY initiatives.

NEW BUSINESS

Human Trafficking Forum (Erick A)

Bloomington Covenant Church, Sat. Oct 29th 9:00 AM – 12:30PM

In conjunction with Source Annex, an organization in south Mpls that works with homeless youth.

Daybreak is human trafficking task force set up at Bloomington Covenant that is organizing the forum.

Facts and stories about trafficking from experts, information for youth and adults about prevalence and preventability, recognition of patterns in the community, etc. Also will be music, art fair, cultural exhibits, etc.

Suggested donation of \$10 per adult, \$5 per student – registration at the door beginning at 8:30AM

Eric will forward flier for BUY members to distribute/post

October Annual Business Meeting

Election of officers (Adult Chair, Student Chair(s), Treasurer, Secretary)

Review of Board roster and reorganization by representation rather than name (Cindy Mc will forward new roster prior to meeting)

Review of Bylaws (Cindy Mc will forward prior to meeting for review)

Schedule BUY events other than regular meetings: Volunteer Recognition Event ?others?

Identification of 2 clearly defined strategic goals for BUY to achieve over the next year.

SEED for Youth will meet Oct. 18th, 5:00-8:00 PM at Central Grounds. Education commissioner Brenda Cassellius will speak.

Next Meeting Oct 25th at 3:00 in the McLeod Conference room, Bloomington Civic Plaza