Meeting called to order at 6:05 p.m.

Attendance: Hector Colon, Angelica Thompson, Sgt. John Fox, Camilla Hillian, Tiffany Wright, Roger Bunker, Patterson Crocker

Guests: Mayor Suzette DeBeatham-Brown, Town Councilor Rickford Kirton, Quishema Jones

I. Approval April, 2021 minutes
   a. Question regarding funds set aside for Bloomfield graduation in April meeting
      ● To be discussed later in the meeting
   b. Motion to approve Roger Bunker
   c. Seconded by Roger Bunker
   d. Motion approved by majority

II. Old Business
   a. Youth Services Program Updates
      ● Foster Care Support Network
         1. Programs continue to be a mix of in-person and virtual sessions
         2. 4/9 - Creating Spring Wreaths
         3. 4/16 - Musical Vibes
         4. 4/23 - Youth Cafe - Discarded Things movie
         5. 4/30 - Tie Dye Party
            - Good turnout for the event
      ● Police and Youth Group
         1. 4/6 - Olympics
         2. 4/20 - Table Talk event
            - Parents were invited to the event
            - Good discussion on how the police and community can work together
- Positive discussion regarding world events and how they affect our community

3. 4/27 - Police Dept. tour and Career Readiness

● Sunbeams
  1. Increased focus on Mental Health
     - Discussed anxiety, depression, symptoms associated with how they are feeling
  2. 4/8 - Youth and Mental Health
  3. 4/22 - My Body is Changing & Am I Ready

● Juvenile Review Board (JRB)
  1. Program has been going well
  2. Most referrals are from incidents outside of school
  3. 2 new cases with intakes occurring soon
  4. Mentor sessions have begun for 1 case and another is being referred for individual counseling
  5. No family services cases at the time

● Project 330 Leadership Group
  1. 4/7 - Vaping (Dynamic Influence virtual pre-recorded presentation)
  2. 4/21 - Game Night
  3. 4/28 - Community Planning Event - social issue
     - Discussed child hunger and the importance of the town Food Bank

● Tribes
  1. 4/5 - Final session and program overview

● CAMS Groups
  1. 100% virtual program
  2. 4/7 - You Emerge Leadership
  3. 4/9 - Fun Friday
  4. 4/21 - You Emerge Leadership
  5. 4/23 - Vaping Presentation (completed by Dynamic Influence)
  6. 4/28 - You Emerge Leadership
  7. 4/30 - Fun Friday Terrarium Gardens

● Parent Series
  1. New program designed for parent discussion
  2. Led by clinician from Evolve Behavioral Health, Latoya Watson
  3. Focus on multiple topics including how to manage life in the pandemic
  4. Excellent feedback from parents who have participate

● Administrative Meetings
  1. 4/1 - List Meeting
  2. 4/1 - Portrait of a Graduate
  3. 4/16 - Clinical Strategies During COVID - NASW Training
  4. 4/20 - RAC Meeting
  5. 4/30 - CAFAF Conference

Roger wanted to know approximately how many youth we serve in the community. Angelica and Tiffany confirmed approx. 60 youth. Due to COVID-19, focus has been to provide smaller group programs with about 7-10 youth in each.

Hector asked Sgt Fox if School Resource Officers are back in schools. Due to staffing, there are no SROs currently assigned however Officers are available to respond whenever called upon/needed.
b. Summer Youth Employment
   ● Application deadline was moved to 5/14
   ● Applications completed and processed through Capital Workforce group website
   ● 14 and 15 year olds for learning enrichment program (11 slots)
   ● 16 and 17 year olds for employment (11 slots)
   ● Multiple town departments have committed to participating in the program
   ● over 70 youth have already applied - Final numbers to be received after application deadline passes
   ● Kickoff mtg scheduled for 5/7

c. Youth Adult Council Budget
   ● No changes based on updates to in-person graduation ceremonies
   ● Anticipate approx. 120 students from BHS to graduate
   ● Approx. 5 students from GEMS
   ● No additional items requested from either school
   ● Intention is to provide the graduation items at the rehearsals

III. New Business
   a. Senior Graduation
      ● Plans have been updated to conduct an in-person graduation for both GEMS and BHS
   b. Portrait of a Graduate
      ● Initiative to highlight different assets and skills desired for our students to be competitive in the 21st century
      ● Have engaged multiple groups in town (town departments, parents, etc)
      ● Currently in the planning process
      ● End goal is to incorporate those desired traits into social and youth programs that support them
   c. Youth Services staffing updates
      ● Two remaining vacant positions have been filled
      ● Also current employees of the Bloomfield School District

IV. Announcements
   a. Police announcements
      ● Sgt Fox provided update on Explorer program
      ● Goal for the month of May is to plan/revist desired community programs
      ● Will be decided based on budget and staffing needs
   b. District Schools Update
      ● Registration for early start and summer programs have begun online
      ● K-8 programs will include instruction in the morning and enrichment programs in the afternoon
      ● Listening tours have been conducted to reach out to parents within the community for all schools in the district

V. Public Comments-
   a. Mayor Suzette Debeatham-Brown provided updates on some community events
      ● 6/19 - Unveiling of the MLK Mural at the Human Services Building at 11 AM
      ● 6/24 through 6/27 - Celebrate Bloomfield!
         1. 6/24 - Concert on Rockwell Avenue
         2. 6/25 - All activities will take place at the Human Service building
3. 6/26 - Activities on the Town Green will include a pop-up shop, food trucks and a live DJ
4. 6/26 - Mayor’s Celebration Ball in the evening celebrating our students
5. 6/27 - Bike ride and Picnic at Filey pond
   • Just a reminder the Library committee has info on their website regarding updates to both the Prosser and Wintonbury locations
b. Town Councilor Rick Kirton
   • Has asked the council to consider if additional funds from the American Rescue Plan could be used within the department to provide services to more youth
   • Just preliminary discussions now however would like us to be ready to possibly request funds when and if they become available
   • Will be included in the agenda for the June Meeting

VI. Adjournment
   a. Meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

The Youth Adult Council meets the first Tuesday of the Month
Next Meeting: June 1, 2021 at 6:00p.m.