Tuesday, September 7, 2021

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

Attendance: Hector Colon, Angelica Thompson, Ofc. Robert Wilkins, Camilla Hillian, Tiffany Wright, Roger Bunker, Patterson Crocker, Shander George, Quishema Jones

Guests: Stanley Hawthorne/Town Manager, Davar Pinnock

I. Introduction to new Town Manager

II. Approval June, 2021 minutes
   a. Motion to approve Shander George
   b. Seconded by Roger Bunker
   c. Motion approved by majority

III. Old Business
   a. Fall Meeting Schedule
      ● Brief Discussion regarding possibly changing the frequency of the meetings
      ● Majority of the group expressed no change to the current structure - meeting once a month
      ● Group will review the 2022 meeting schedule during the November meeting

IV. New Business
   a. Youth Services Program Updates
      ● Foster Care Support Network
         1. Programs continue to be a mix of in-person and virtual sessions
         2. Program runs year round
         3. 8/6 - Paint Party
         4. 8/14 - SaltWater Fishing
         5. 8/20 - Back To School Carnival Family Event
         6. 8/27 - Sparetime Bowling
      ● Summer Youth Employment
         1. Includes Job Readiness Program (Tier 2) and Job Placement program (Tier 3)
2. 8/2 through 8/6: Tier 2-14 students & Tier 3-13 students
3. 8/9 through 8/13: Same as above
4. 8/16 through 8/20: Tier 2-1 student & Tier 3-5 students (make up hours week)
5. 8/13 - End of SYELP program awards banquet
   Multiple awards provided to highlight youth achievement
6. Worksite placements included a number of town departments
   Fidelco also provided a position for the summer program
7. Shander commented that the two individuals she worked with in Leisure Services and one within the Family Resource Center were a great addition to the team
8. Feedback was positive from all departments/employers that participated in the program
9. Angelica clarified the program is open to all youth who live within Bloomfield (not just those enrolled in Bloomfield schools)

- Juvenile Review Board (JRB)
  1. 0 new referrals
  2. 3 Active Cases with 4 closed
- Refer to monthly report for additional program details
  1. Fall Programs (small in-person groups following state guidelines)
     - Tribe - Young Men’s Mentorship Program
     - Police and Youth
     - Project 330 Leadership Group
     - Life Skillz
     - Sunbeams
- Trunk or Treat Event
  1. Preliminary discussions have begun regarding the event
  2. The event will include a drive-in movie
  3. Last year included 120 participants
  4. More to come in the October meeting as well as a request for fund

V. Announcements
   a. Dad Hero Event
      - Saturday, September 11 from 4 - 9 PM at 330 Park Avenue
      - Annual Fatherhood event sponsored by My People Clinical Services, Department of Children and Families, The Village and the Town of Bloomfield
      - Event will include a Vaccine Clinic
   b. Reminder of the Diaper Bank and Uniform Closet located within the Family Resource Center at Laurel School
   c. Roger Bunker requested information on what social, emotional, learning and restorative practice instruction is being provided to Police officers (especially those in schools)
      - Ofc Wilkins did share with the group that staffing has been in issue over the past few years with the department
      - As of today, he was not aware of any training that has been scheduled in the foreseeable future
      - Training was to have begun on July 1st
      - Angelica also expressed concern as to what the overall impact would be with students returning schools (and the overall effect on JRB)
      - Clearly evident there is a need in schools to provide and highlight coping skills for our youth in schools
Mrs. Jones did convey to the group this is a focus of administration and school staff in all the schools
As of now, they are working to and reviewing each case as they come up. However, there are still challenges with providing remediation due to COVID protocols (ie. virtual services)
Mrs. Jones will provide any details at the next meeting regarding the district plan of action as to how to address the issue.

d. Just a quick update - we passed out 130 bags for the BHS 2021 graduating class

VI. Public Comments
   a. None

VII. Adjournment
   a. Meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

The Youth Adult Council meets the first Tuesday of the Month
Next Meeting: October 5, 2021 at 6:00p.m.