

Westport Youth Commission
June 13th, 2022
General Meeting Minutes

- Alex welcomes everyone to the June meeting
 - Last meeting of year
- Caroline makes a motion to approve may minutes, Tucker seconds
 - Approved
- What's Up
 - Staple boys' lacrosse won states yesterday
 - Beat Darien for the first time ever. Darien is number four in the country
 - Caroline says Staples girls' tennis is not a fan of Darien girls' tennis
 - Staples girls' tennis made it to semifinals, but lost to Darien
 - Bus broke down on way, and someone on West Hill team may have keyed a car
 - Staples graduation on 16th, but school still for a week afterward
 - GFA had commencement yesterday
 - Darrell McDaniels (RunDMC) was commencement speaker
 - Boys' tennis won states
 - WYC member, Alex Guadarama had best doubles team in state
 - Boys' rugby won states
- Youth Services
 - Kevin thanks everyone who came to Youth Services end of the year volunteer recognition party
 - Would like to do something of similar in fall to bring groups together in start of year
- Prevention Coalition
 - Johnny's Ambassadors, program started from Colorado
 - Purchased training for TAG students around marijuana use
 - Offered for Commission members to join
 - 3 hour training, can be done on own or as group
 - Kevin can send out information
 - Will have date over summer
 - Training allows you to deliver the program to classes at Staples. Would work it into freshman health class presentations
 - Adam says thank you to all the members of the Commission for the year, reflecting on a successful year with both new initiatives and continuing old initiatives. Appreciate that it was an active group
 - miniMentor talked about for years, finally happening

-dodge a cop brought back
-progress on skate park

- Advocacy Groups
 - Peer Education
 - Corn a Cop was a success
 - Lola, Taylor, and Officer Taylor Field won tournament, with help from Alex and Jared
 - Det. DeVecchio said the beginning took a while at getting going
 - Laskin says bracket needs to be more practice making bracket
 - Det. says fun was had
 - miniMentor
 - One more video to be filmed on Thursday, then they should be edited and ready to go
 - “Yay team”
 - Next year, can hopefully move forward with new ideas
 - Maybe press release next year
- Town
 - Walkthrough of skatepark w/ Parks Superintendent Mike White
 - Mike was very receptive and helpful
 - Noah will come up with prioritized list of asks
 - The biggest concerns seem to have been addressed already
 - Longshore survey is for the golf area, beach is with a different survey. It is not too late to influence different survey.
 - Next steps to figure out what makes other skate parks successful ex. Westville
 - Spikeball will happen in July if it happens
 - miniGolf
 - Need more new members to help lead the project
 - Will be an early priority next year
 - Adam tracking down what the square footage for a miniGolf course is
 - Tucker says it could be helpful to survey the miniGolf course in Norwalk
 - Adam will be reaching out to call the vendor
 - Valerie mentions how White Plains has 3 town owned miniGolf courses, could be helpful to collect data on size, pros, cons
 - Tucker asks how many people would want a miniGolf course
 - Laskin says all youth in room would be in favor, youth agree
 - Caroline says many people complain about lack of activities for middle school youth
 - Adam says Parks and Rec agrees with interest in town in miniGolf

- Adam says will now be engaging Commission for Seniors and Commission for Disabled to have three Committees advocating for it
 - Kevin says one thing to Commission's disadvantage this year was that we started on Zoom
 - Valerie says we have a survey from a few years ago we can use to demonstrate interest
 - Adam says plan is to have each hole represent public landmark in Westport
 - Valerie says great to bring together community
 - Adam says next year we will start in on standing issues

- 22-23 Nomination Slate
 - More applicants than spots available
 - 4 first years coming in (traditionall honorary members)
 - A few members had stepped down over the course of the year, which happens sometimes as time and commitments change
 - Valerie makes a motion to accept the slate as presented, Rita seconds
 - Opened up for discussion
 - Kevin says there is usually a youth library, teen services librarian, youth services rep. Jeanmarie. Kevin is hopeful she will come to meetings
 - YMCA is still doing some reshuffling, still being figured out if someone will be sent
 - Open adult positions have been open for some years. There are many open positions on commissions around town.
 - Valerie mentions there is interest in getting teacher
 - Vote for approval: unanimously for the ayes

 - Lilly makes a motion to empower the nominating committee to approve the officer slate, Caroline seconds
 - Discussion: None
 - Vote: passes unanimously

- Kevin sill follow up with nominating committee or changing spot they are in
 - Nominees are not obligated to accept, they will still remain members of commission

- Jared makes a motion to adjourn, Kareenna adjourns
 - Vote: passes unanimously