

Association of New York State Youth Courts
Quarterly Meeting - Colonie, New York
February 16, 2006

In Attendance: Lisa Chamberlain (Saratogo County), Stacey Sullivan (Saratoga County), Eric Watkins (Owego Youth Court), Judy Wolfe (SCSD Student Court), Violet Colydas (Colonie Youth Court), Michael Vincent (Youth Court of Jefferson County), Kathryn Barnard (Warren County Youth Court), Deb Holland (Ontarion County), Dottie O'Neil-Marble (Livingston County), Stacey Whitely (Bethlehem Youth Court), Nancy Cormier (Ulster County), Patty Lockart (Colonie)

ANYSYC 2nd Vice-President, Eric Watkins called the meeting to order at 10:28 a.m. Introductions were made around the table. A motion was made by Kathryn Price to approve the minutes of the November 2nd meeting. It was seconded by Violet Colydas. All present were in agreement.

Treasurers Report: A motion was made by Violet Colydas to nominate Stacey Whitely as treasurer. It was seconded by Debbie Holland. All present were in agreement. Currently there is \$11,063.00 in account.

Membership Report: Violet Colydas stated that there are 30 youth courts represented in the association's membership generating \$3,000.00 in dues. \$580.00 were collected from youth membership.

Old Business: Susan Taskin (Clinton County) and Kevin Crumb (Oneida County) have agreed to fill vacancies on the board for 1 year terms. At the last quarterly meeting a survey was developed to send to all the youth courts known in NYS in an effort to collect accurate data statewide. Violet Colydas stated that she received 52 responses back so far. The 2nd part of the survey will be sent to those that responded, both parts will be resent to the youth courts that have not yet responded and posted on the website.

New Business: Judy Wolfe suggested that perhaps the Association could create a handbook on NYS juvenile justice to be available for youth courts, youth, families, and other stakeholders. It would explain the system and laws in layman's terms and other pertinent information specifically targeting youth and families. Violet Colydas made a motion to invest some of the monies currently in the account into a 6 month high yield CD. Nancy Cormier seconded the motion. All were in favor. \$5,000.00 will be placed in a 6 month high yield CD. There was a discussion about filling the secretary's position. As of right not it was agreed that members would take turns taking responsibility for the minutes of the meetings. Mike Vincent suggested that we get a presentation from a group such as Channing Bete to talk about their curriculums. Judy Wolfe suggested that at each meeting we provide guest speakers or presentations to educate members such as new laws affecting youth. A suggestion was made by Patty Lockhart for the Association to create a curriculum to give to NYS Youth Courts, the National Youth Court Center would be able to make powerpoints available for all states. She stated that there is a lot of talent with in the ranks of Youth Court coordinators. Debbie Holland stated that she has collaborated with WalMart, sharing the Street Law curriculum she uses in her Youth Court. Wal-Mart was receptive to a collaborative effort to teach young offenders, using their curriculum as well as the Street Law for Youth Courts curriculum. It was suggested that a request to other youth courts be sent out to see what educational workshops they may use and what might be useful to other youth courts. It could be made available via the website. A request will be made for courts to bring any materials they have that may be particularly

effective or unique to the next ANYSYC meeting in May to share. It can be games, educational materials, or training materials they have used or created. Youth Courts will be asked to email Violet Colydas what topics will be brought to the next meeting to share. Stacey Whitely discussed the newsletter. Mike Vincent suggested we solicit articles from youth.

Guest Speaker: Scott Peterson, Program Manager, OJJDP, updated us on the Youth Court movement on the national level. Scott told us about the upcoming professional development trainings that NYCC is hosting, the next one is in Denver in April, one will be available for newer programs in San Diego in June. Youth Courts will now receive 5 copies of *InSession* so they can be passed out to stakeholders. There will be training materials available on-line for the different models, courts will be able to download the materials and revise them. Street Law will be coming out with a new module soon on alcohol. There will be a reprinting of the Street Law book as well as the Deliberation video. All bulletins and briefs will be reprinted and placed in a single document. Recruiting posters will be getting a new look and will be geared to Youth Courts, Student Courts, Peer Courts and Teen Courts. They will be sent out in April. Law Day is May 1st. Kits are available from the ABA. The Youth Court Month Action Kits will be mailed out earlier this year. The ABA is creating a guidebook on the most common offenses handled by Youth Courts. About 20 people from around the country helped with this effort. NYCC's website is being revised. In late September there will be a one day training on Implementing & Enhancing in NYS. There will be a *Train The Trainers* weeklong workshop in Lexington, KY. Sarah Pearson is developing a manual for adult volunteers. Scott updated the group on the recent meeting in New Orleans with states who have associations or networking groups to plan the creation of a national association. There will be a state profile book, a listserv created for associations. Some goals of a national association will be creating "*100 Things You Should Know*", to get a Congressional Proclamation for National Youth Court Month, create Youth Court in a Box, a Walk for Justice, create a directory of state profiles, develop a "Justice Bowl", work on a 12 year report, which Paula Nessel will be writing. A national conference will be planned for states with associations or networking groups.

Special Presentation: Michael Elmendorf, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs and Special Assistant to Governor Pataki, presented those present with recognition certificates on behalf of the Governor. Mike is the former founder of the Colonie Youth Court and expressed how pleased he was to see the growth of Youth Courts across NYS.

A motion was made to adjourn at 2:30 by Eric Watkins. The motion was seconded by Michael Vincent.

Next Meeting Date: May 2nd – Canandaigua, NY (Ontario County Youth Court hosting)

Respectfully submitted by:
Judy Wolfe
1st Vice President
Association of NYS Youth Courts