

Association of New York State Youth Courts
Quarterly Meeting - Syracuse, New York
August 14, 2007

In Attendance: Nancy Cormier (Ulster County), Joanne Willis (Oswego County), Adrienne Fayette (Jefferson County), David Palen (Onondaga County), Susan Taskin (Clinton County), Nicole Kissinger (Hoosick Falls), Stacey Whitely (Bethlehem YC), John Hall (Monroe County), Jackie Sherman (Center for Court Innovation), Andrew Placito, Violet Colydas (Colonie YC), Katherine Chambers (Warren Co.), Steve Wolf (Syracuse City School District), Luanne Strauser (Elmira YC), Mike Torrillo (Amherst YC), Judy Wolfe (Syracuse City School District SC)

1st Vice President Judy Wolfe opened the meeting at 10:20 a.m. After introductions, the minutes of the May 2007 meeting were approved.

Treasurers Report: The treasurers report was given by Stacey Whitely. There was a discussion on the COS ink cartridge fundraiser which now includes recycling cell phones (a separate label for shipping phones can be requested). There is now a recycling bin (box) that must be used instead of the original bags. Once the box is full it can be shipped. Youth Courts will receive a 60/40 split on the monies they fund raise or have the option of donating all their proceeds to the ANYSYC.

Membership Report: Violet Colydas stated membership is currently at 101. It was suggested that courts promote youth membership as part of National Youth Court Month, which is September.

Old Business: Jackie Sherman gave an update on the upcoming Youth Summit in Brooklyn on November 15th. She asked for suggestions from members for a keynote speaker to address the group. The focus of this summit is to strengthen youth courts throughout NYS. Regional reps need to be looked at again as there have been several changes in personnel in various youth courts.

New Business: A nomination committee has been set up to nominate new officers for the upcoming year. A vote will be taken at the November meeting following the Youth Summit in Brooklyn. Nancy Cormier will chair the committee which consists of Susan Taskin and Katherine Chambers. There was a suggestion that officers move up a slot to provide a smooth transition. The Division for Criminal Justice Services will no longer be supporting listserv. Two agencies have expressed interest in continuing the service, the NYS Attorney General's Office and the Center for Court Innovation. Violet Colydas gave an overview of the National Association of Youth Courts. Britney Batz has been hired as coordinator. There is an upcoming conference in December in New Orleans and a "Walk for Youth Justice" in April. There has been a request for state associations to sponsor holes in a golf tournament in New Mexico, a vote on this was tabled until the November meeting. (More information on the National Association can be found at www.youthcourt.net)

Guest Speaker: Special Deputy Attorney General Carl Boykin gave an overview on the new Guns & Gangs initiative in the NYS Attorney General's Office. A network is being created statewide to assist in handling guns & gangs. The AG's office would be willing to assist a jurisdiction if asked by that jurisdiction. Mr. Boykin gave a brief history of how criminal activity of gangs has been handled throughout NYS and how prevention is now one of the tools being used to curb gang involvement. There will be a component added to the Attorney General's Students Against Violence Initiative (SAVI) on guns and gangs.

A motion to adjourn was made by Jackie Sherman at 2:25 pm. It was seconded by Nancy Cormier.

The next meeting will be following the NYS Youth Court Summit on November 15th in Red Hook, Brooklyn.

Judy Wolfe
1st Vice President
ANYSYC