

# **Association of NYS Youth Courts**

## **Quarterly Meeting Minutes**

**Syracuse, NY**

**August 27, 2009**

**Present:** Judy Wolfe (SCSD Student Court), Steve Todisco (Livingston Co. Youth Court), David Palen (Onondaga County Youth Court), Jackie Sherman (Center for Courts and the Community), Luanne Strauser (Elmira Youth Court), Dawn Metott (Oswego City Youth Court), Katrina Charland (Bethlehem Youth Court), Violet Colydas (Colonie Youth Court), Brian Chetney (Oswego County Youth Court), Damian Pratt (Onondaga County Youth Court), Cookie Waller (Rochester Teen Court), Deb Holland (Ontario County Youth Court).

**Call to order:** 10:30am

### **Introductions**

**Approval of Minutes** –Brian Chetney motioned for approval of the May minutes. The motion was seconded by Violet Colydas.

### **Business Report –**

- Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Dave Palin distributed the monthly cash flow chart. No major updates to report.
- Discussion was held regarding purchasing blank gold seals.
- There are still cords for sale.
  - There has been a lot of positive feedback regarding the cords.
- No new memberships since the last meeting in May.
- Membership push will be coming up in November.
- Youth Membership (\$10) benefits include:
  - Access to the directory
  - Participation in meetings
  - Certificate
  - Attendance at applicable conferences
- Discussion was held on creating a youth friendly brochure.
- Decals: Violet Colydas will get quotes on decal pricing and a vote will be held in November for the purchase of decals, which will be included in 2010 membership packages.
- Pins: Cookie Waller will gather quotes for the prices of pins. This is also to be voted on in November.
- Other promotional items discussed were: aluminum water bottles and lanyards.

### **Training Component –**

- The Director of the New Justice Agency gave a mini-training session on conflict resolution and the services offered by the New Justice Agency.
- Each host site will provide a brief training segment to be included with our quarterly meetings.

### **Old Business –**

- Scholarship:
  - Committee: Dawn Metott, Violet Colydas, Deb Holland, Luanne Strauser, Judy Wolfe.
  - Eligibility requirements / application discussion:
    - Online application was discussed.
    - Applicants must be youth court members involved in a youth court that is in good standing with ANYSYC.
    - Applicants do not need to be entering a specialized field, just continuing education.
    - Completion of a 500 word essay on what they've learned from youth court participation / what youth court has done for them.
    - Recommendations / references required.
    - Youth court coordinator contact info will need to be included so review committee can verify applicant's standing within their particular youth court.
  - Announcement letter should go out Dec. 1, 2009.
  - Deadline for submissions: Essays will need to be submitted to the ANYSYC scholarship committee by January 31<sup>st</sup>. Each youth court coordinator will be responsible for setting their own deadlines in order to get submissions in by Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>. Students will submit applications to their youth court coordinator/director, who will in turn submit them to ANYSYC.
  - Review of applications by the scholarship committee should be done in time for the February quarterly meeting. A final decision will be made at the February meeting.
  - The winner will be announced at the May meeting.
  - The award will be given in May/June.
- Booklet on Rights for Young Adults/Teens:
  - Discussion continued on the previously proposed idea to contribute funding towards a booklet being produced by the NYBF directed at teens explaining their legal rights.
  - It was decided that at this point we would no longer entertain the idea. A motion was made by Dawn Metott to abandon the idea. It was seconded by Cookie Waller.
  - Cookie Waller motioned to put together our own, more relevant to youth court, booklet that could be put on our website and downloaded by both youth and ANYSYC members. Violet Colydas seconded this motion. More research needs to be done on this concept.
- Center for the Courts and Community:
  - Jackie Sherman gave a project overview and an update on the progress of the youth court research endeavor. Surveys had been sent out and they are in the process of collecting them. They are currently in the site-visit phase of the research. A total of 8 preliminary sites are going to be visited. These sites were selected based on a cross sample of the following criteria: urban, rural, suburban, caseload, model, and operation (minimum 5 years). They will be interviewing key adults, respondents, members, and directors. The next big step is processing all of the information. The original goal was to have a best practices manual published by the end of the calendar year, but realistically they will not have the final product complete by the end of the year. But, they are optimistic to have something in publication by year's end.

**New Business –**

- Vacancies:
  - Treasurer: **A new treasurer needs to be nominated ASAP.** Treasurer Dave Palin will be retiring in September of 2009. The treasurer's tasks include: making deposits, writing checks, completing annual taxes, and keeping records.
  - President: Judy Wolfe mentioned her position as President will be up for election/re-election in November.
- Newsletter: Submissions / articles should be sent to Judy for inclusion in the upcoming newsletter.
- Future collaborative work with the Center for Courts and the Community: A brief discussion was held regarding the possibility of the ANYSYC helping fund CCC projects that directly benefit the ANYSYC. Proposals would need to be submitted. Explore the idea further at a future date.
- Web content: Send any ideas to Judy.
- NAYC: Recently held a Baltimore regional training. Two of our members (Judy Wolfe and Andy Placito) presented at this training. The NAYC will be holding a national conference in November in Orlando, Florida in Disney.

**Adjourn:** 12:30pm

**Next Meeting:** November 4<sup>th</sup>, Greenburgh (exact location TBD)

Respectfully submitted by:  
Katrina Charland, Co-Secretary