

Association of NYS Youth Courts

**Quarterly Meeting
Ulster County Youth Court
Kingston, NY
Tuesday, May 10th, 2011**

Present: *Members:* Katrina Charland (Bethlehem Youth Court), Violet Colydas (Colonie Youth Court), Judy Wolfe (SCSD Student Court), Steve Todisco (Livingston County Youth Court), Deb Holland (Ontario County Youth Court), Mary Trish Cina (Ulster County Youth Court), Dory Hack (CCI), Nancy Fishman (CCI), Lisa Klein (Ulster County Youth Court), Cookie Waller (Rochester Teen Court).

Associate Members: Stacey Whiteley (NYSBA),

Via Phone: Dawn Metott (Oswego Youth Court).

Call to order: 10:15am

Introductions:

Approval of Minutes:

Motion made by Cookie Waller to approve minutes of the last meeting. That motion was seconded by Steve Todisco and was approved.

Business Report:

- Treasurers Report: Steve Todisco, the newly appointed treasurer, is in the process of transitioning all necessary documents into his possession.
 - Taxes have been taken care of.
- Membership: There are 17 youth memberships (which totals \$170). There are 26 paid members and 2 associate members for 2011, which totals \$3,150. We typically have about 30 memberships by May, and therefore are slightly lower this year than others. The recent survey sent out by the CCI to gather data on state-wide membership may serve as a reminder to some courts to join.
- Scholarship committee: There are a total of three \$500 scholarships being awarded this year. Scholarship money will be deposited into their student accounts at their respective colleges. The recipients are: Philip Casper from Genesee County Youth Court, Erin Jackson from Ontario County Youth Court, and Blaine Johnson-White from the City of Elmira Youth Court. Congratulations to the winners of this year's essay contest!
- Research and Data Collection: Jeffrey Butts and Stacey Whiteley have been working on ideas for creating a more comprehensive, web based data collection method. This would be somewhat like an updated version of TeamYC.

Old Business:

NYSBA updates – The following updates were given by Stacey Whiteley, who works with the NYSBA, specifically coordinating the Law Youth and Citizenship (LYC)

program. The NYSBA is very close to finishing the new legislation they've been working on in conjunction with the CCI. The legislation doesn't limit program operations, rather it affords legal protections. This legislation also lends credibility to Youth Court programs.

The NYSBA program Law Youth and Citizenship will be hosting a conference in Long Island in October and they'll have 3-4 Youth Court segments. They hope to spread the word about Youth Courts to educators and others who may be interested in starting a new Youth Court in their own school or community.

The NYSBA is also working with Judge Kaye, who is planning a presentation in the fall.

The Albany City School Youth Court is getting under way and will begin hearing cases in the fall. They completed a site visit to the Syracuse City School Youth Court and plan to visit the Bethlehem Youth Court in the near future.

Stacey is working on coordinating a big presentation in the fall for federal officials, which will be held in Albany.

CCI updates – The CCI is opening a new Youth Court in Brownsville, and training has already begun. They've been working on a NYC School project, for which the goal was to open up several school based Youth Courts. So far 7 schools are lined up to open Youth Courts in the fall. These new courts will be using the CCI modules and Youth Court curriculum. They will conduct site visits for each school and evaluations will be done to help gather better data to compare recidivism rates, compliance, etc. Each court will be customized to fit the particular needs of the school. The CCI reports that a new High School is slated to be opened which will focus on Justice Involved Youth. They're hoping that Youth Courts can be worked into this new school's curriculum.

Discussion was held on how to "sell" the idea of Youth Courts to schools. The CCI is providing Youth Court curriculum to schools that fits the New York State Social Studies Standards, which is a huge selling point because it can be incorporated into their regular curriculum and get class credit for it.

The CCI will be launching a new website, which should include a more robust Youth Court component.

By-laws and amendments – The only update on the by-laws since our last meeting was the removal of the requirement for a 2nd vice president. Now that we allow for co-presidents, we just have the Vice President position (which is currently occupied by Dawn Metott).

New Business:

Slate of officers have been elected –

- Co-Presidents: Cookie Waller and Deb Holland
- Vice-President – Dawn Metott
- Secretary – Katrina Charland
- Treasurer – Steve Todisco

The ANYSYC would like to thank Judy Wolfe for her years of dedication and service to the Association as she served in the position of President.

Regions – The Western district held their first district meeting which was highly successful. It was well attended and resulted in great conversation, momentum and they are scheduled to meet again on June 9th.

The following lists the regions and their regional coordinator:

- Western – Steve Todisco
- Central – Dawn Metott
- Capital Region – Katrina Charland
- Southern – the CCI

Regional meetings should include a training component if possible.

The Monroe County Bar Association will be hosting a wine tasting and silent auction event, which Judge Kaye is scheduled to attend, in June.

Referrals – Discussion was held on how to increase referrals, especially from probation. Some ideas for solutions included talking to the police departments, reaching out to SROs, getting magistrates on board by attending their meetings, follow up with phone calls and mailings, and getting in touch with court clerks.

Adjourn: 12:00

Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 9th in Oswego (170 Bunner St.)

Respectfully submitted by:
Katrina Charland, Secretary