

**Minutes of the Bernards Township Municipal Alliance/Youth Services
Commission
May 8, 2018**

Mayoral-Appointed Members Attending

Kaitlin Cartoccio, Vice-Chair, Health Department Representative
Linda Wooldridge, BOE Representative
Johnny Graves, Clergy Representative
MJ Postal, Senior Citizen Representative
Isabel DiPalo, Student Representative
Cathy Phillips, Substance Abuse Representative
Zoe Pettit, Citizen Representative
Alexandra Timoney, Student Representative

Other Attendees

Lucy Forgione, Health Department
Jennifer Sorensen, Somerset County Alliance Coordinator
KateLynn Patronick, Youth Services Commission

Members Not Attending

John Malay, Chair, Township Committee Representative
Amy Button, William Annin Middle School SAC, School Representative
Sherri Harris, Citizen Representative
Tracy Baldassare, Bernards Township Police Department
Swapna Uradi, PTO Representative
Katy Soulas, Civic Group Representative
Joan Harris, Citizen Representative

Call to Order

Kaitlin Cartoccio called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm. All attendees stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mission Statement

Welcome and reading of the Mission Statement by Kaitlin Cartoccio. The mission of the Bernards Township Municipal Alliance Against Substance Abuse is to provide consultation, programs, training, and resources to members of the Bernards Township community with the goal of preventing and reducing the use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.

Minute Approval

Isabel DiPalo made a motion to approve the minutes from April 3, 2018. Linda Wooldridge seconded. The minutes were approved.

Reports

Somerset County Alliance Coordinator – Jennifer Sorensen reported that the 3rd quarter report was received and approved. Forms 10 and 11 are still needed for 2016-17. Ms. Sorensen distributed a flyer for Prevention Resources, Inc. Family Support Center. Rocky Schwartz is the Family Support Coordinator. Rich Shello, Director of Athletics, is reviewing “We Are Not Buying It 2.0,” a substance abuse prevention program for use in middle schools. Somerset County Overdose Awareness Day is Thursday, August 30, 2018.

Youth Services Commission – KateLynn Patronick reported that grant applications were sent out May 23 and are due on June 15. A Community Resource Fair is being held on Thursday, May 10 at the Somerset County Vo-Tech in Bridgewater.

Agenda Items

Grant Coordinator Update -- The Be Well Girls program is going well; students learn yoga and nutrition, and Amy Button and Jamie Sutton have talked with them about academic stress and counselors at William Annin. Seven girls are in the program, but all of them do not attend every session. Kaitlin is working with Chris Flanagan, a William Annin teacher, on a Youth Services Commission grant application for WAMS Breathe. This would be a William Annin club for boys and girls; students can attend when they want to. Amy Button is writing a competitive grant for a new program at William Annin based on REBEL. It will be a small peer educators group focused on vaping.

RAAD – 8 YACs will be attending LMTI this summer. Sam Harris will be a college-age YAC. Teen Talk in April went well; there was good discussion at every table. It was suggested that the PTOs co-sponsor this event next time as a way to increase parent attendance. RAAD is doing a car wash on Saturday June 16 from 10 am to 3 pm.

Upcoming Events – Kaitlin Cartoccio asked for volunteers to help with Charter Day on May 19, Twilight Challenge on June 3, and the car wash.

Ridge Booth – the next one will be in September 2018. Email suggestions to mjpostal@hotmail.com.

Member Comment

Permission slips went out for the Student Stressor Survey. It will be administered to students in grades 6,8,10 and 12 in early June.

Joan Harris is now an instructor for Youth Mental Health First Aid. Joan and Kaitlin are teaching a class on Thursday, May 9. The class is full.

Kaitlin Cartoccio is teaching several Youth Mental Health First Aid classes during the summer for teachers in the Bernards Township School District.

Adjournment

Cathy Phillips made a motion to adjourn. Johnny Graves seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Wooldridge