



LEWIS COUNTY YOUTH BUREAU

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Penny (Demo) Moser, Director

Lewis County Youth Bureau Advisory Board

Minutes of January 16, 2019

Elizabeth McGuire (Libby) called the meeting to order at 4:01pm. The meeting was held at the Lewis County Courthouse in the Legislative Chambers.

Present: Elizabeth McGuire-Co-Chair and Student Representative South Lewis, Madeline Lehman-Vice-Chair and Student Representative Lowville Academy, Kallie Bauter-Student Representative South Lewis, Deanna Edick, Kirstin Moshier-Student Representative Lowville Academy, Michele Ledoux, Victoria Boliver-Student Representative Beaver River, and Mike Leviker. **Others Present:** John Lehman-Chairperson Youth Bureau Legislative Committee, and Penny Moser-Director Lewis County Youth Bureau. **Excused:** John Exford-Co-Chair, Scott Mathys, Chloe Benson and Justine Schmidt-Student Representatives Harrisville Central, and Katie Zehr.

Introductions and Welcome: Katie Zehr has been appointed to the Lewis County Youth Bureau as a Community member. Katie' term of appointment is for the period January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2021.

Minutes: Review of the November 28, 2018 Youth Bureau Advisory Board Meeting minutes. Victoria Boliver made a motion to accept the minutes as written; Madeline Lehman, seconded; **motion carried.**

Old Business:

“Homeless Christmas Tree” Initiative-Wrap Up: Penny reported that this annual initiative was a success with an overwhelming amount of donations received of personal hygiene, kitchen and bath supplies, donations baby clothing/baby items for our “Loved Twice Baby Boxes,” and items for our senior citizens. Kallie reported that when she heard about Peyton Schmitt a student at Harrisville Central, volunteering to have a satellite “Homeless Christmas Tree” at his district, she asked the principal at South Lewis Central, is she could start a satellite “Homeless Christmas Tree” at South Lewis. Kallie reported that permission was granted with the initiative bringing in a ton of donations! The packing up date was December 27th. A huge thank you to Kallie Bauter who helped sort through and pack up all of the donated items. * A car full of donations and gift cards for our senior citizens, was delivered to the Office for the Aging to provide to their consumers at their discretion. The county's maintenance department helped us pack up excess donations and delivered them to the Lowville Food pantry to store. A car load of donations, were delivered to the Department of Social Services where the items will be readily available. Monetary donations were also received that will be utilized to replenish items as needed throughout 2019.

Putting Together “Loved Twice” Baby Boxes: Penny asked that anyone interested in sorting through and putting together the “Loved Twice” Baby Boxes, that they contact her. This would be a great project for students to meet their government class-community component requirements.

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), the DEA Education Foundations and Discovery Education – “Operations Prevention Video Challenge” – Reminder: Information pertaining to this challenge was emailed to the youth bureau on December 5th. This 3rd annual challenge encourages teens to create a 30-60 second original public service announcement that alerts other student about the dangers of prescription opioid misuse and heroin use. The goal is to inspire teens to research the opioid epidemic, identify its widespread impact on the country and the substances’ harmful effects on the body, and to start a social movement that encourages authentic dialogue about this critical issue. *If you have not yet done so and would like to create a 30-60 second public service announcement, you have until March 6, 2019 to do so. The video challenge is open for high school students, ages 13 and older. For additional information go to <http://www.operationprevention.com/video-challenge>.*

2018 Youth Bureau Annual Report: Each year an annual report that captures the makeup of the Youth Bureau’s Government, Administration, and Advisory Board is published. The document provides an overview of youth programs funded through the board, including projects, initiatives, and events as well as depicts the youth bureau’s community involvement. The finished report is submitted to OCFS as well as Lewis County Officials, and is posted on the Youth Bureau website at www.lewiscountyny.org. The document was previously emailed to the youth bureau board, with hard copies distributed at today’s meeting.

New Business

Student Representative-Request: As previously reported, Tara Martin-Student Representative from Beaver River Central School was unable to fulfill her term on the board due to other commitments and work. **Victoria Boliver advised that she knows of a student at Beaver River, who may be interested in being appointed to the board. Victoria will reach out to the student.**

2019 Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) Resource Allocation Plan: Penny reported that although the Office of Children and Family Services have not yet officially released the 2019 allocation of Youth Development Funds that are allocated to counties engaged in comprehensive planning for youth services. OCFS has advised that it is anticipated the 2019 allocation amount to counties will be the same as last year (the 2018 allocation for Lewis County was \$21,115.00). *Penny reported that she has submitted a resolution to approve the 2019 Resource Allocation Plan in the amount of \$21,115.00. The allocation of these funds, activate the process for the youth bureau to begin requesting proposals. The Resource Allocation Plan will be amended if the amount is different. **“OCFS-Legislative Add on Funds”:** OCFS has advised, that the additional “Legislative Add On” funds that counties have typically received annually, is likely not to happen. (In 2018 we received \$2,284 in “Legislative Add On” funds which has been utilized to fully fund the Annual Lewis County Night Out event).

After discussion the following was approved:

Madeline Lehman recommended to issue a press release announcing the availability of up to \$14,000 in 2019 OCFS Youth Development Funds. Deanna Edick advised that in her role as Director of Services at Lewis County Department of Social Services, her unit is seeing an increase in drug related issues. **After further discussion, the membership present approved of submitting a press release announcing the availability of up to \$14,000 in 2019 OCFS Youth Development Funding as follows:** The Lewis County Youth Bureau is seeking applicants interested in offering program opportunities for youth under the age of 21 that are designed to prevent juvenile delinquency through positive youth development. These funds target early intervention and prevention services that are designed to curb the high priority problems facing youth. Programs should include a component of preventive education and or drug prevention awareness. These funds are intended to be used for youth most likely to become involved in the criminal justice system and to expand community services. The deadline for submitting proposals is March 15, 2019.

The press release will be issued to the Lowville Journal & Republican; Linking Lewis County and will be on the Youth Bureau's Website.

Discussion was held on the need for some type of youth program in the Harrisville area. Legislator John Lehman will reach out to Harrisville residents for input.

2019 Annual "Lewis County Night Out" Event: Doug Hanno, contacted Penny asking if the Youth Bureau will be hosting the Annual Lewis County Night Out event as September dates are filling up fast to host the event at the Lewis County Fairgrounds. He acknowledged that September 6th is open. Co-Chairperson McGuire stated that due to the increase of drug usage, she recommends the board to continue hosting the LCNO event. **The board agreed with Co-Chair McGuire. The 2019 LCNO event will be held on Friday, September 6th at the Lewis County Fairgrounds.** Mike Leviker advised that we need to begin thinking of an agency or agencies that we would like to recognize for their efforts, during the opening ceremony. * Legislator Lehman suggested to contact Stewarts Shoppe for support in funding the LCNO event. Through their annual "Holiday Match" Fundraiser, funds raised go back to the community to support youth programs. **Penny will contact Stewarts regarding the application process.**

Next Meeting: The next meeting has been scheduled for **Wednesday, February 20th at 4:00pm** at the Lewis County Courthouse, 2nd Floor in the Legislative Chambers.

Adjournment: Victoria Boliver moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:45pm; Kirstin Moshier seconded. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,
Penny L. Moser, Director
Lewis County Youth Bureau Advisory Board