

Knox Youth Council

Meeting Notes- November 5, 2015

7:00- 9:00 pm

Members present:

- Maryellen Gillis, Coordinator
- Dennis Barber, Member, Liaison to Town Board
- Maria DeLucia-Evans, Member
- Vas Lefkaditis, Member, Supervisor-Elect
- Megan Murphy, Member
- Anne Payne, Member
- Tom Payne, Member
- Sarah Pasquini, Member
- Sandy Quay, Member
- Travis Stevens, Member, County Legislator

Meeting Notes

Mission Statement

- Discussion/draft of the Knox Youth Council Mission statement
Draft statement:
Serving the youth of the Hilltowns by providing a safe community in which to learn and grow

Core Beliefs

- Our children are valued members of our community and the building blocks of the future.
- Our programs will provide the opportunity to explore their interests, build on their strengths and help them to reach their potential.
- Our programs will encourage each child to find their voice and will seek to empower our young people to develop the skills necessary to lead happy and successful lives,
- Our programs will provide opportunities for educational, social, recreational and cultural events for our young people and their families.

- Our programs will support the development of a positive self-esteem and a sense of self-worth.
- Our programs will provide children with the opportunity to enjoy childhood and create memories.

Discussion of Calendar- Events for 2016

Calendar of Events: Tentative/Proposed

Winterfest- Coordinators: Sarah Pasquini, Megan Murphy, Maria Delucia-Evans' Travis Stevens, Tom and Anne Payne

- Tentative date: January 30, 2016; Alternate date- February 6,2016
- Chili contest, sledding, tubing, snowshoe races, cross-country ski trail, bonfire, refreshments, snowshoeing
- Sandy Quay will contact Nature Center for possible equipment and activity ideas

Possible trips over the February Break (2/15-2/19)

- Proctors/Palace theatres
- Roller-skating
- Maple Ski Ridge
- Bowling
- Maryellen Gillis will begin researching events and report back to the committee costs and availability

March/April

Discussion of weather challenges; Easter Egg Hunt; combine with Kiwanis Maple Weekend; tabled until next meeting

Memorial Day

- May 30
- Float jointly decorated by the scouts and 4-h groups
- Ice Cream and Pony rides
- Possible Chicken dinner (fundraiser?)
- Contact Fire company (Maryellen Gillis) in order to coordinate efforts
- Need to advertise events

The Great Knox Camp Out (Family Night in the Park) Coordinator: Travis Stevens

- June 4th; Raindate, June 11
- Family Camping night in the park
- Bonfire and other outdoor family activities

Summer Camp Coordinators: Sandy Quay, Maryellen Gillis

- Weeklong program
- Date to be announced after consulting with the Berne Youth Council
- End with fireworks ; carnival or celebration

Soccer Program Coordinators: Maria DeLucia-Evans, Peter Evans, Sarah Pasquini, Tom Payne

- Dates TBA – Tentative September/October

Halloween Party Coordinators: Vas Lefkaditis, Tom Payne

- Trunk or Treat (In park and possibly the church parking lot)
- Notify main street residents, invite them to participate
- Party at Fire House

General Discussion

- Organizational Structure: Committees for each event; coordinator recruit volunteers for specific events/tasks
- Recruit high school students to volunteer- credit can be given for community service; BKW teacher/advisors Coriellen Travis and Collen Skiff- to be contacted by Maryellen Gillis
- Form a focus group of middle-school and high school students to advise the KYC
- Tap into the services offered by Cornell Cooperative Extension; Contact person: Maria Evans (Strengthening Families; workshops available)
- Mentor Program for at risk youth- Possible Big Brother/Big Sister program
- Discussion/proposed :A joint meeting with the Berne Youth Council
- Shared services agreement with Berne- copy distributed to members; Knox Town Board tabled discussion at their November 4 meeting
- Other possible trips: Valley Cats game, snow-tubing, movie theatre

- Other possible activities:
 - Saturday morning workshops
 - Town-wide Fourth of July party
 - Sports clinics
 - Sports events: kickball games, softball games, Ultimate Frisbee competition
 - Fair/carnival
 - Music in the park- concert series
- Partnerships
 - Knox Fire Department
 - BKW PTA
 - Berne Youth Council
 - Local Churches

Tentative Meeting Schedule

Members please review dates for conflicts

- Wednesday, December 2
- Thursdays: January 7, February 4, March 3, April 7, May 5, June 2, July 7, August 4, September 1, October 6, November 3, December 1
- *All meetings are open to anyone who is interested in joining or volunteering*