

Wethersfield Youth Advisory Board Meeting September 2, 2004

Members in Attendance: Maria A. Calleri, Steve Cook, Matt Daskal, Sharon DiGioia-Daskal, Caitlin Drake, Debra Hammer, Rebecca Kotkin, Julie Montinieri, Barbara Ruhe, Nancy Stilwell, Kristin Zeller and Heather Zottola.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Matt Daskal.

The [minutes from June 2004](#) were reviewed and accepted.

Youth Advisory Board:

- CornFest - "Yes I will" fundraiser will take place at the Cornfest September 18th. YAB members signed up to cover police booth to sign people up for wills.

Department of Youth Services Update:

- We need someone to serve as a representative to CASAC - Capitol Area Abuse Council. Meetings are usually held during the day.
- A new youth counselor is being hired. Interviews will take place September 9.
- Due to budget cuts one day of Crossroads will be cut from the Middle School and there is only one van. No t-shirts will be provided for the ROPE program. PTAs were contacted to try to get funding. Climbing will be cut back as well.
- CREC program this summer with six at-risk students to help them attain employment went very well. Consultants worked with students on job hunting. Students are now interested in looking at colleges. Matt Daskal suggested looking into Capitol Community College. Nancy Stilwell will continue to work with these students throughout the year.

Youth in Government

- Matt Daskal met with Mayor Morin over the summer to discuss getting students more involved in government. He was interested in getting students involved in meaningful jobs at the town hall.
- Matt Daskal suggested students get a chance to speak at the beginning of town council meetings.
- Rebecca Kotkin is an editor of the school newspaper and will print any governmental issues we think students may be interested in.
- Mayor Morin suggested having a program on youth issues and tape it to show in civic classes at the high school.
- Debra Hammer suggested children get acquainted with voting machines by using them during the school year to vote on various school issues.

Other Business

- Financial report - \$1500 in account.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.