

Subject to Approval  
Madison Youth and Family Services Board  
Minutes from March 9, 2021

In Attendance: A. Aron, P. Davies, K. Dess, D. Buller, S. Snyder, R. Xeller, A. Symonds, D. McMahon, J. Bowler, B. Skudder, Sergeant Yorke, L. LaPorta, J. Daignault, K. Kilbourn

Staff: S. Cochran, M. Fahey

Absent: J. Rogers, J. Fitzgerald, S. Murphy

I. Welcome and Chairperson Comments

D. Buller called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

II. Citizens Comments

None

III. Approval of February 9, 2021 minutes

Motion to approve the February 9, 2021 minutes was made by R. Xeller and seconded by B. Skudder.  
Motion approved.

IV. Correspondence

M. Fahey read 3 thank-you notes from the following:  
The Special Olympics, The Polson Staff, and the parent of a client.

V. Treasurer's Report - A. Aron

- A. Aron reported that the Sunshine Fund has \$160. Members may drop off their voluntary donation to Sunshine at the MYFS office.
- Motion to approve the following donations was made by B. Skudder and seconded by L. LaPorta:
  - An anonymous donation of \$150 honoring the work of Erin Corbett.
  - \$10,000 donation from Neighbor-2-Neighbor for the Covid Relief Fund.
  - \$10,000 donation from Neighbor-2-Neighbor for the Discretionary Fund.
- Motion Approved.

VI. Board Discussion of MYFS Evaluation Report

- S. Cochran reviewed the Evaluation of MYFS.
- The cost of the MYFS study was budgeted in FY 20-21, completed by Loretta Jay, a consultant with CCM (Connecticut Conference on Municipalities).
- The study looked for possible duplication/redundancies; cost effectiveness; how the model compared with other similar towns.

- The study found no redundancies/duplication of services; the model was cost effective; and the model was shown as favorable when compared with similar towns.
- The study supported MYFS planning and implementation; supported the need for additional space; and supported the expansion of the Parent Support Counselor position.
- The study cited the following areas that need improvement:
  - Data Collection; Website; Communication with MPS; and Trauma Training.
- S. Cochran reported on the first focus group meeting.
- S. Cochran asked the board to consider types of information and data that are relevant to the mission and how to incorporate them in reports.

#### VII. Student Report – Jake Daignault and Darian McMahon

- J. Daignault reported on Trimester 2 exams.
- J. Daignault reported on the meeting he and D. McMahon had with the new superintendent, Dr. Cooke.
  - J. Daignault reported that Dr. Cooke will join their meetings with DHHS principal, TJ Salutari.
- J. Daignault discussed some of the issues that he sees in the student population regarding Covid, including isolation, eating issues, depression and substance abuse.
- D. McMahon discussed the increase in anxiety among the students at DHHS.
- Board held discussion about the anxiety of DHHS students returning to school full-time.

#### VIII. Director's Report

- S. Cochran discussed upcoming community QPR (Suicide Prevention) training on 3/18 at 6:30pm.
- S. Cochran discussed QPR trainings sponsored by the DHHS PTO (on 3/23/21 at 8am) and the Polson PTO (on 4/22/21 at 6:30pm).
- S. Cochran reported that 2 MYFS staff members (D. Cornwell and K. Volz) will be leaving due to family job opportunities out-of-state.
- S. Cochran reported that we have a waiting list for clinical clients and are actively looking for contractual clinicians to help with the case load.

#### IX. Liaison Report—J. Yorke, Madison Police Department

- J. Yorke reported that MPD had received their Covid vaccinations.
- J. Yorke reported that the department is gearing up for the summer season and possible July 4<sup>th</sup> celebrations.

X. Chairperson Comments – David Buller, Board Chair

- D. Buller asked everyone to reflect on the last year as we approach the 1-year mark of when the schools closed.

XI. Open Board – Board members encouraged to ask questions and provide input.

XII. Meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm.