

Subject to Approval
Madison Youth and Family Services Board
Minutes from October 12, 2021

In Attendance: A. Aron, K. Dess, D. Buller, R. Xeller, D. McMahon, J. Bowler, B. Skudder, J. Rogers, R. Wahl, A. Symonds, S. Murphy, S. Snyder, L. LaPorta,

Staff: S. Cochran, M. Fahey, T. Scalia, E. Corbett

Absent: Sergeant Yorke, J. Fitzgerald,

I. Welcome and Chairperson Comments

- D. Buller, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.
- D. Buller advised the Board that meetings will be virtual for the rest of the calendar year.
- D. Buller reminded the Board that there are 2 vacancies and if you know of people who may be interested to have them go through the Republican or Democratic Town committees to be nominated.
- D. Buller discussed openings on the executive committee.
- D. Buller discussed the Movie “Finding Hope” and the importance of attending events associated with MYFS.

II. Citizens Comments

- None

III. Approval of September 14, 2021 minutes

- Motion to approve the September 14, 2021 minutes was made by R. Xeller and seconded by A. Aron. Motion approved.

IV. Correspondence

- None.

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 made by B. Skudder and seconded by K. Dess, to approve a donation of \$1,000 to GASP from the Madison Diversity and Inclusion Committee.
- S. Cochran expressed his gratitude for the very generous donation which will be used to pay for t-shirts that will be sold at Pridefest on October 16, 2021.

VI. Staff Presentation—School-based Clinicians Erin Corbett and Taylor Scalia

- E. Corbett began by stating she is currently in her 17th school year working for MYFS.
- E. Corbett discussed her role as a school-based clinician at DHHS.
 - Erin sees regular education students as well as special education students.
 - Students are referred by parents, school staff, and peers, in addition to seeking her support on their own.
 - Erin also helps with programs for Wellness Wednesdays, the Student Support Team, and runs GASP—the gender and sexualities program at DHHS.
 - Erin teaches the gender and sexualities program in 9th grade health classes and also facilitates our summer community service program.
- Taylor began by stating she is currently in her 6th school year working for MYFS.
- Taylor discussed her role as a school-based clinician at Polson.
 - Taylor sees regular education students as well as students with other supports.
 - Taylor started the Rainbow Lounge last year and will be co-facilitating it with J. Zeigler (MYFS).
 - Taylor also teaches the anti-bullying program “Who’s Got the Power” in 6th grade health classes.
 - Taylor will co-facilitate the Girl’s Leadership Program with P. Butler (MYFS).
 - Taylor ran a pilot program over the summer for groups of students aged 5-17 for socialization and emotional regulation.
- Taylor will sometimes have her therapy dog Ruby with her. Taylor is able to act as a point person to coordinate with other therapy pet owners when there is a greater need.
- E. Corbett talked about sexual assault training, and mindfulness/self-care, and to be aware of the effects of the pandemic on young people.
- T. Scalia discussed the importance of suicide prevention, crisis intervention and the dangers of too much screen time.

VII. Student Report – Darian McMahan and Rebecca Wahl

- Darian discussed the new Pledge program and how he began with a meeting of the football team to discuss sexual assault and sexual harassment; and an upcoming meeting of Girls United that each player was invited to attend.
- D. McMahan discussed the Girls United meeting that was attended by 2 players from the football team and the enlightening discussion held.
- D. McMahan discussed having a recruitment carnival for Valor.
- R. Wahl reported on the positive effects for students being able to attend sporting events at DHHS.
- R. Wahl discussed the upcoming meeting with TJ Salutari, DHHS principal.
- D. McMahan discussed the importance of the upcoming survey.

VIII. Director's Report—Scott Cochran, Director

- S. Cochran discussed the importance of the survey which will be given on 10/27; and the upcoming Tiger Talk with MYFS staff.
 - There will be an addendum of questions which are of special concern to MYFS including questions about sexual assault/harassment in addition to questions about experiencing and or seeing harassment based on skin color or ethnicity.
- S. Cochran reported on the movie “Finding Hope” and the dangers of counterfeit/pressed pills.
- S. Cochran reported on the summer focus groups and the resulting new Director's Report with the new cover sheet.
- S. Cochran discussed the upcoming budget cycle.
- S. Cochran reported on the ongoing discussions surrounding the possible renovation of the Academy School.
- S. Cochran stated that MYFS is glad to be a part of the proposed renovations for the Academy School as a Community Center.

IX. Liaison Report –

- None

X. Chairperson Comments – David Buller, Board Chair

- D. Buller deferred his comments to A. Aron.
- A. Aron discussed the survey that Madison residents are being asked to complete regarding the affordable housing project.

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

- R. Xeller discussed the “Finding Hope” movie and the possibility of setting up a program to help Board members be more aware of MYFS events.

XII. Adjourn

- Meeting was adjourned at 8:36.