

MINUTES OF THE NORTH TONAWANDA YOUTH BOARD MEETING
January 18, 2021

- I. ATTENDANCE – Alex Domaradzki, Michelle Bernas, Martha Russell, Allison Banko, Stephanie Barmann, Sue Ohrum
- II. CALL TO ORDER – 7:08pm
- III. OLD BUSINESS –
 - 1) **Approval of December Minutes:** Alex motions, Sue seconds.

 - 1) **Treasurer’s Report:** No report. (No funds spent or gained) balance remains \$4,646.13.

 - 2) YOUTH PROGRAM UPDATE-
 - Rec Sports- program attendance still strong.
 - Hockey- attendance varies. Most likely sticking with open-play and not league based based on irregular attendance.
 - Kids Cooking Club- Have had a couple cooking club sessions that went really well. Great feedback from participants.
 - Letters to Santa- Program went really well! Over 200 letters were processed, and responses were sent out. People posted to the YC Facebook page videos of their kids excitement in receiving the letters. The santa mailbox at Botanical Gardens was a big hit!
- IV. NEW BUSINESS-
 - 1) **PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT:** Posts on social media went out regarding a public engagement asking people to join the meeting to weigh in on needs of the youth during this pandemic. One person reached out to Michelle for the meeting link, but they never joined in.
 - 2) **PICK-UP FOOTBALL:** We started up an additional program. Pickup flag football for students Mondays, Fridays and Saturdays for grades 3-12 (time slots vary). Response has been good with 44 kids registered.
 - 3) **NON-SPORT PROGAMS:** We are aiming to offer non-sport oriented outdoor activities for those kids who aren’t “sporty”. Ideas include hosting at Payne or Pinewoods Park. Have engaging games and activities (i.e. scavenger hunts, capture the flag, contests, etc) that aren’t necessarily sport related. Without the snow thus far, original ideas of “snow-based” activity program has been on hold.
 - 4) **OTHER PROGRAMS:** The hiking program hasn’t started as there is worry to the safety of taking students on trails that are icy, and hard to traverse without proper hiking equipment. Alternative ideas include:
 - a. **Snow Tubing:** Taking students (or even perhaps Junior Youth Board members) snow tubing. Stephanie mentioned talking with Julie Smith who has a connection with First Student to get discounts on bus travel.
 - b. **Community Service Trips to the Animal Rescue:** We can advertise and provide transportation for group trips to the animal rescue sanctuary (Stephanie is a member).

- c. What can we do for NTHS seniors?: Discussion about if there is a social distant safe event that we can put on for NTHS seniors (typically we do the Post Prom Event). They are missing out on so much; it'd be great to be able to offer something. One idea mentioned was organizing a "City-Wide Scavenger Hunt" like the Amazing Race. Martha suggested using the app- "Goose Chase" to implement into the planning. Stephanie mentioned having something at the Transit Drive-In. Steph has a connection with the owner and will reach out to discuss. **Challenge for next meeting: Come up with ideas for what we could potential do for NTHS senior class.**

5) NEXT MEETING DATE –February 15 @ 7pm (Virtual via zoom link)

6) ADJOURNMENT – 7:45pm Motion Martha, Sue seconds.