

# **City of Norwich Youth Board Meeting January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2007**

**Present:** H. Graves  
J. Drelich

**Also:** J. Wysor

**The meeting came to order at 7:00 PM**

**R. Mason was absent due to illness**

**2007 Board elections post phoned until February**

**December 2006 Minutes:** accepted as written

**2006 Winter Recreation Programs:** J. Wysor reported on the progress of winter programs. Programs are running fine, baseball and softball starting in February.

**Skating Facility:** Due to unusually warm weather there has been no ice skating. Ice skating will be held pending colder weather and ice.

**New Business:** H. Graves reported he had been in contact with Mike Mayhood from Mayhood's Sporting Goods. Archery equipment is available should the Youth Bureau want to start an archery class. Snowshoeing is not available at this time. Mayhood's are considering buying snow shoes for rental, however they have not yet done so and the conditions this winter have not been conducive anyway.

**Monthly Meeting Change:** The motion to change monthly meeting days was brought off the table for discussion. At the December meeting a motion was made to change monthly meetings from the second Tuesday at 7:00pm to the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm. After discussion the members present decided to approve the day change. **Monthly meetings to be held the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM**

**Meeting was adjourned**

**The next regular meeting of the City of Norwich Youth Board will be Wednesday February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2007 7:00 PM**

# **City of Norwich**

## **Youth Board Meeting**

### **March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2007**

**Present: H. Graves**  
**M. Maiurano**

**Also: R. Mason**

**The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM**

**After some discussion the Youth Board decided to postpone Board elections to the April meeting due to lack of membership present.**

**Recreation Programs:** R. Mason reported the totals for winter programs to date. A total of 302 youths have been involved with 2007 programs, which is only 22 below 2006, the Youth Bureau's busiest year. More registrations will be received from baseball, softball and soccer. These activities will be running into mid March. Winter activities have gradually increased since the mid 1990s when participation numbers were around 185. It appears that the Youth Bureau has been successful in expanding program opportunities and participation.

**Gymnastics 108   Wrestling 82   Soccer 46   Baseball 18   Softball 21   Bowling 27**

Bowling, Gymnastics and Junior Wrestling concluded in February. Wrestling concluded with a day long tournament sponsored by the Norwich Wrestling Boosters.

H. Graves had met with Mike Mayhood from Mayhood's Sporting Goods about a possible archery activity for area youth. R. Mason and H. Graves will be meeting with Mayhood regarding what might be possible and what expenses might be associated with it.

**Skating Facility:** The facility remained open 24 February days, with the month total being 1516 skaters. The Reality Check skate party of 2/3/07 was successful with 239 skaters that day alone. Music, food and door prizes were supplied by Reality Check at the event.

H. Graves suggested the media be made aware of the popularity of the facility during the ice season. A release will be prepared by H. Graves and sent to the Evening Sun.

Ice conditions became unfavorable at the end of the month and with warmer temperatures on the way it will most likely not reopen.

**Board Membership and Participation:** H. Graves encouraged all Board members to find other persons willing to serve and to encourage youth (teens) to become members as well.

Having no further business, the Youth Board was adjourned at 7:28.

**The next regular meeting of the City of Norwich Youth Board will be April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2007 7:00 PM in the City Hall meeting room.**

**TO: All Youth Board Members  
Members of the Common Council**

**SUBJECT: April Youth Board Meeting**

**FROM: R. Mason  
Youth Bureau Office**

**H. Graves  
M. Maiurano  
C. Sastri (late)**

**There are no recorded minutes for the March Youth Board meeting as only two members were present and no business was conducted.**

**Those in attendance discussed ways in which more individuals might be involved with the Youth Board and become active members. Anyone knowing a prospective member is encouraged to speak with them and contact R. Mason at the Youth Bureau office who will in turn contact them with more detailed information. Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM and last for about one hour. No meetings are held in July or August. Youth members are especially encouraged.**

**It was also discussed at length of what the role of the Youth Board actually was. New ideas for expanded programming may be good, as well as alternate funding sources. New activities may draw a more diverse group of youth from the community and involve them.**

**The next regularly scheduled meeting of the City of Norwich Youth Board will be Wednesday May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2007 at 7:00 PM in the City Hall meeting room.**

**TO: All Youth Board Members  
Members of the Common Council**

**SUBJECT: May Youth Board Meeting**

**FROM: R. Mason  
Youth Bureau Office**

**There are no recorded minutes for the May Youth Board meeting as only one member was present. (C. Sastri)**

The final totals for winter 2007 were 344 registrants which made this the busiest winter period the Youth Bureau has experienced.

Summer programs have been planned. Playground will be held at the Middle School and Borden Avenue skating facility because of construction at the normal sites. To Your Health Fitness will provide an activity at the Borden Avenue site two days a week. This will promote physical activity and a healthy eating lifestyle for children. The Chenango Health Network may also become involved at the Borden Avenue site.

Soccer will try new scheduling, with two practice nights a week for each age group and a “game night” each Friday.

**Skating Facility:** The facility will again be open for use as an unattended park this summer. The facility building will open for groups upon request. One request has been already scheduled for June.

The skate park opened for use starting the last of March. The park appears to be well used.

**Summer Registration:** Program signup night will be Wednesday June 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. Following registration new Youth Bureau business will be conducted as needed as this would be the normal monthly meeting night.

**Summer Employment:** Most of last years staff has elected to return. At present 14 positions remain unfilled. J. Wysor will start interviews after May 7<sup>th</sup>.

The next regular meeting of the City of Norwich Youth Board will be Wednesday June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2007 7:00 PM (following summer program registration).

**Assistance from board members at program sign up night will be appreciated.**

**TO: All Youth Board Members  
Members of the Common Council**

**SUBJECT: June Youth Board Meeting**

**FROM: R. Mason  
Youth Bureau Office**

**In lieu of the monthly Youth Board meeting summer program registration was held. The members present assisted in that activity. There are no recorded board minutes for June as no meeting was conducted.**

**The next regular meeting of the City of Norwich Youth Board will be Wednesday September 5<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM at the City Hall meeting room, following the summer recess.**

**All summer activities will commence Monday July 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

**Kurt Beyer pool is scheduled to open Saturday June 23<sup>rd</sup>.**

**A skateboard competition is scheduled for Saturday June 30<sup>th</sup>.**

# **City of Norwich Youth Board Meeting September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2007**

**Members Present:**

H. Graves, C. Sastri  
M. Maiurano

**Also Present:**

R. Mason  
Z. Hopson

**The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by H. Graves**

**March Minutes:** Accepted by the Board as written.

**Summer 2007 Recreation Programs:** Summer program totals were supplied by R. Mason. Even though all program sites had been moved by construction at most school sites summer activities remained successful. There were 417 registrants in summer programs, compared to 401 in 2006, 381 in 2005 and 396 in 2004. C. Sastri inquired if winter programs will be affected by construction.

R. Mason stated a grant was obtained to restore some summer trips. A condition of the grant required trips to be educational in nature. The award was received in early August providing little time for planning. Trips included the Burnet Park Zoo in Syracuse and Secret Caverns in Cobleskill. The grant paid for all driver expenses and admissions so there was no fee charged. Both trips filled to capacity. H. Graves liked the idea of educational trips as compared to purely recreational ones.

The summer playground site included weekly visits from "To Your Health Fitness", Guernsey Library and a conservation coordinator from the Youth Conservation Corps. These programs provided an alternative to the traditional daily playground routine and were well accepted by the children. H. Graves suggested expanding outside resources in the future, possibly to include Sy Lloyd, (The Bone Man) an animal forensics expert.

Two teams were sponsored by the Youth Bureau in the Gus Macker tournament. This was a first time sponsorship by the Youth Bureau. The girls team placed first in their division. The boys did not do as well, but had a good time in the event.

**AED – Kurt Beyer Pool:** R. Mason stated Kurt Beyer pool did not have an AED and although not required, it would be good to have one. All lifeguards are already trained in use of an AED. During the summer the lifeguards (with the support on one of the guard's mother) took it upon themselves to raise money for a unit. The projected cost is nearly \$3,500. R. Mason said that there was a partial grant available and additional money could be taken from the Youth Bureau revenue account from Coca-Cola. After extensive discussion on the matter it was decided approach civic organizations for their support before expending revenue monies. Lifeguards raised approximately \$80.00.

M. Maiurano suggested the recycling center on East River Road, next to Lelain's Lane. She stated that cans dropped off there can be credited to designated organizations. She will contact the center and report back to the board for the October meeting.

**Skating Facility Dasher Boards:** R. Mason stated that board spaces are normally paid yearly starting in October for the year to come. Some supporters stop paying their yearly support fees for unknown reasons. In such cases the dasher boards remain in place two years and are then removed. H. Graves inquired as to when the last campaign was run to recruit dasher board supporters. This was last done under Mayor Stewart. After discussion the Board decided to compile lists of possible supporters and report back at the October meeting.

**Board Membership:** Present at this meeting was Zena Hopson, who was interested in board membership. More active members are still needed. Board members are encouraged to recruit new members for the October meeting.

**The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM. The next regular meeting of the City of Norwich Youth Board will be Wednesday October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2007 7:00 PM at the City Hall meeting room.**

## **City of Norwich Youth Board Meeting October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2007**

**Members Present:**

H. Graves  
Z. Hopson

**Also Present:**

R. Mason  
J. Williams

**The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by H. Graves**

**September Minutes:** Accepted as written.

**Winter 2008 Recreation Programs:** R. Mason reported winter planning was underway by J. Wysor. Most likely Junior Wrestling would be starting in early November as opposed to December or January in the past. The earlier start will prepare the wrestlers for competitions against other groups who start at that time. Softball and baseball will start in February, a coach for softball may be needed. Gymnastics, our most popular winter activity will run again starting in January. The Soccer center has been contacted to continue with Sunday soccer. Bowling will also be held with funding being restored to the Youth Bureau budget by the City Finance Committee.

Registration for winter programs will be held in late November or early December.

**Skating Facility:** The rink building is being prepared for ice skating, most of the ice skates need sharpening. The rink will open when conditions permit for the winter season. Rink attendants are needed.

Interest has been received from the Chenango Tobacco Free Coalition to sponsor a community skate party this winter.

Members present discussed a campaign to attract new dasher board supporters. R. Mason will email a listing of current supporters to board members. Normal renewal of support for the facility and youth programs is done in October each year.

**AED Funding:** More discussion was held concerning the purchase of an AED for Kurt Beyer pool. This was a project started by the lifeguards. Members present believed it should remain identified as a lifeguard project and although the guards had gone for the year the Youth Board could continue the effort. Z. Hopson will attempt to get a listing of where prior letters had been sent by the lifeguards.

**2006 Youth Bureau Budget:** The 2008 Youth Bureau budget has been prepared and accepted by the Finance Committee. Final approval will be by City Council. The 2008 budget has been increased \$600. It was decreased by more than \$11,000 in 2007.

**Board Membership:** J. Williams was present showing interest in board membership. She knows two others who may also be of interest. C. Sastri emailed additional interest of two individuals. More members are needed. R. Mason stated the Youth Bureau was monitored in September by the N. Y. S. Office of Children & Family Services. This is done every four years as they provide state funding. State findings "suggest" board members and activity increase.

**Pagoda Decorating:** The park pagoda will be handled by other individuals this Christmas season and returned to "Santa's Cottage" as it was many years ago. R. Mason has inquired with B.I.D. if there were other needs in the park for the Christmas season that the Youth Board could assist with and there were none. After discussion the members present thought there may be other options at Weiler Park and the skating facility. More discussion will be held at the November meeting.

**The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 PM. The next regular meeting of the City of Norwich Youth Board will be Wednesday November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2007 7:00 PM at the City Hall meeting room.**

## **City of Norwich Youth Board Meeting November 7th, 2007**

**Members Present:**

J. Drelich            J. Williams  
H. Graves            C. Sastri

**Also Present:**

R. Mason  
J. Wysor    D. Howe

**The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by H. Graves**

**October Minutes:** J. Drelich motioned to accept the October minutes, seconded by J. Williams and accepted by the Board.

**Youth Board Members:** J. Williams and Z. Hopson have been appointed as members by Mayor Maiurano. Dortha Howe was present for the meeting to show her interest in Board Membership. H. Graves believed he has found a potential member, Brian Doliver. He believed parents with younger children should be sought. More youth members are also needed, student services at the high school might be able to help.

**Winter 2008 Recreation Programs:** J. Wysor stated that the program planning is continuing. Wrestling will start Thursday December 8<sup>th</sup> to provide a longer season. Wrestling registration will be held at the program site. Tim Scheer is the program instructor, Kevin Slater is assisting and one position needs to be filled. Some volunteers will be used.

Gymnastics has yet to be confirmed with Fred Barnes, but would normally start after the first of the year. Rich Turnbull will run the baseball practices at the soccer center, Tom Monday has yet to confirm his involvement with the softball practices, and an instructor may be needed. Bowling will start Tuesdays and Wednesdays 3:30 – 5:00 after January 1st, the days “may” be flexible and a coach is needed.

**Program Registration Night:** To be held 12/5/07 6:00pm at the Youth Bureau Office prior to the December Youth Board Meeting.

**AED Funding:** R. Mason reported no additional funding had been received since last month. About \$1800 is still needed. The Board discussed possible funding sources through mainly service organizations. H. Graves started to compile a list of prospective contacts. The effort should remain identified as a Kurt Beyer Pool Lifeguard effort started last summer.

**Dasher boards:** All past supporters of dasher boards at the skating facility have been contacted regarding 2008 displays. One has replied as of the date of this meeting. More rink supporters are being sought, but the best recruitment method has been having the rink open where people see the dasher boards and make inquiries. R. Mason stated he wanted to avoid contacting the same agencies or organizations for dasher board support that may have been contacted for AED funding.

**Program Volunteers/Youth Board Members:** R. Mason stated that it has become necessary to have volunteers complete background waivers prior to any involvement with Youth Bureau activities. Board Members may also have to complete the waivers, based upon the possibility of becoming involved with any special events that might be held. There were no objections heard from the Board. H. Graves commented that this was only about two years behind many other organizations.

**Seasonal Decorating:** H. Graves had a plan to create wreaths out of bicycle wheels and pine boughs with lights to display on the rink building. After discussion R. Mason will attempt to gather the required materials and email board members to arrange a time to work together to create them.



**The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM. The next regular meeting of the City of Norwich Youth Board will be Wednesday December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2007 following winter program registration (@ 7:00).**

**TO: All Youth Board Members  
Members of the Common Council**

**SUBJECT: December Youth Board Meeting**

**FROM: R. Mason  
Youth Bureau Office**

**In lieu of the monthly Youth Board meeting winter program registration was held. The members present assisted in that activity. To date there are 261 signed up for winter activities.**

**There are no recorded board minutes for the scheduled December Youth Board meeting. Only two members were present and no business was conducted.**

**The next regular meeting of the City of Norwich Youth Board will be Wednesday January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008, 7:00 PM at the City Hall meeting room.**