

Groton Parks & Recreation Department  
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Real Choice Systems Change Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, Nov. 16, 2004 - 11:30 a.m.

Committee members present:

Stan Kosloski, Chris Gaynor, Eileen Cicchese, Gary Patterson, Paul Duarte, Mary Hannigan, Sue Lehrman, Carrie Czerwinski, and Jim Flannigan.

One new member has joined our committee. Sue Tuthill has joined the committee and expressed an interest in working with Theater initiative.

Stan Kosloski introduced Steve Barnhill a guest to the meeting.

Meeting got underway at 11:45 a.m.

Members of the committee were up-dated on the following

- ✓ Much of the information on the "Making Real Choices" booklet has been compiled. Jim Flannigan stated that he has given copies of the booklet to Stan, Chris, and Carrie to review. Once the review is completed he will incorporate their comments into the booklet, and solicit prices for printing. He hopes to complete the project before the end of the year.
- ✓ Jim Flannigan reported on the Disabilities Mentoring Day. He stated that with the assistance of Kathy Scully from the Board of Education the program was a great success. The students reported to her that they learned a lot about the opportunities available to them in Town government. Jim further reported that eight students participated in this year's event. Puffin's restaurant was contracted to provide the food for the event. Kathy told Jim that this was her first year with the program, and looks forward to conducting the program next year.
- ✓ The committee was informed about the Inclusion Video that is currently being produced by Shawn Greeley. Mary reported that the video is in progress and that several employees and consumers have already been interviewed. The target date for the completion of this video is by the end of the year. Shawn only has a couple of more interviews, and then will edit the production. Once this is completed he will forward the video to the committee for review.
- ✓ The committee was informed about The Second Step Players production. The program was well received by those in attendance. It was estimated that about 50

people attended the program. Jim Flannigan suggested to the committee about providing the program to the High School. The committee agreed that this would be a worthwhile undertaking. Jim stated he will work with Kathy Scully of the Board of Education to see if they would be interested.

- ✓ Eileen and Jim spoke about the training they attended for the Mentoring program. They stated the training was a Train the Trainers program for training Mentors. Eileen stated that the training was very good, and would benefit the Mentor program. Jim further informed the committee that any assistance needed was available to the committee. He further informed the committee that the program should start with 4 or 5 mentors, and then increase the numbers as the program grows.
- ✓ Jim Flannigan reported that he has been in contact with the Town Human Resources department about training. He stated that he has been playing phone tag with Joyce Sauchuk. Jim did say that it is believed that most of the training has been completed for the Town, but hopes to have a definitive answer by the next meeting.
- ✓ Eileen Cicchese reported on the Groton Regional Theater. She stated that the original meeting had been canceled, and that a meeting was to be held on November 30, 2004 with the group. She advised that the committee for the Theater Group would like to know what we like to achieve. Discussion ensued, and Eileen was given ideas to take to them. The main focus was on having their group conduct work shops on different aspects of the theater. Jan Lehrman said that she would also be in attendance at the meeting.
- ✓ Stan Kosloski and Chris Gaynor reported they will be conducting a meeting of local communities at the Town Hall Annex concerning programs available, and what communities in the state are doing. The program will be held on Friday, December 3, 2004. They asked if the committee would be willing to provide refreshments. Jim advised he would make arrangements with Puffin's Restaurant to cater the event.
- ✓ Jim Flannigan advised the committee that Carrie Czerwinski would be holding a meeting of the Olmstead Coalition at the Town Hall Annex. Carrie was interested in knowing if the committee would sponsor the refreshments for the event. The committee agreed they would. When Carrie will work with Jim to provide the refreshments on the day of the meeting.
- ✓ Jim Flannigan asked the committee about the next project to be worked on once the booklet is completed. After discussion on the topic Stan Kosloski suggested that there is a booklet available for small businesses. Stan stated he will research this, and if available provide it to Jim. Jim will work with the area Chamber of Commerce to distribute the booklet at one of their meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted  
James E. Flannigan