Shelton Youth Service Bureau
Advisory Board Meeting
February 15, 2017

Attendance: James Guarerra, Debbie Zahornacky, Jill Chase, Dr. Beth Smith, Lorraine Williams, Jill Chase, Sally Schwaller, Kay Redmond, Laura Lee Bunosso, Jay Correia, Jennifer DeLeon, Rev. Lucille Fritz, Bobbi Tar, Lia Bocchino

Absent: Ben Trabka, David Munson, Patricia Stanchfied, John Trovarelli, Kenneth Saranich, David Cribbins, Jr., Sarah Bishop, Deanna Fava

Staff: Silvia Rodriguez, Dee Kopec

I. Vice Chairperson James Guarerra called the meeting to order at 7:50 a.m.

II. Motion made and seconded to approve the January 2017 minutes with the following correction: Jay Correia was present, not absent, at the January 2017 meeting. Motion carried.

III. Reports of Staff and Youth

A. Youth Service Bureau Report - Silvia Rodriguez

Silvia reported on the recent Juvenile Justice Task Force meeting and distributed a handout to the board concerning juvenile justice laws and how they will affect Youth Service Bureaus.

On January 23, Silvia met with Yolanda Vance (CT Community for Addiction Recovery) to discuss the Youth and Adult Recovery Support Network for adults between the ages of 18 and 30 who come out of recovery but still need continual support. She is requesting resources and support from YSB’s.

Silvia further advised that she and John Zeller, Executive Director of the Boy Scouts, met with Kathy Riddle about the Explorer Program (a careers program for high school students),

B. Youth Representative – Lia Bocchino

Lia informed the board that Youth2Youth members served dinner and baked valentine cookies with residents of Spooner House on February 8.

On February 24, Y2Y presentations at the Intermediate School health classes will deal with the dangers of vaping.

Lia further reported that Y2Y members will be hosting Bingo on February 25 with residents of Bishop Wicke.

She added that this is “Kindness Week” at Shelton High School with various activities going on each day.
C. Youth Advocate – Silvia Rodriquez

Silvia reported that the Y2Youth group has been working hard with various groups within our community, such as senior citizens, youth and the homeless.

Many fundraising activities are planned so Youth2Youth members can attend the Youth Leadership Conference this summer – coming up in March a Volleyball Tournament.

D. Community Alert Program – Dee Kopec

Dee advised the board that a Safe Sitter class is scheduled this Saturday, February 18, and the next class is scheduled April 22.

She reported on the February 3rd meeting of the Alliance for Prevention & Wellness and said that the March 3rd meeting will have a State Trooper presenting a program about Drug Recognition Experts.

Dee added that donations for the Raffle Table at the Teen Safe Driving Program, April 4, will be greatly appreciated.

E. Teen Center – Dee Kopec

Dee said flyers will be distributed to schools for 5th, 6th and 7th grade Fun Nights (March and April)

F. Juvenile Review Board – James Geissler

In Jim’s absence, Silvia advised the board that the next scheduled meeting of the Juvenile Review Board is Monday, March 6 (one new case). One case is completed and one case doing community service.

IV. Old Business

None

V. New Business

Dr. Smith advised that Shelton High School is conducting a “Start with Hello” Program and also discussed “Kindness Week” and the “Lego Project.”

VI. Motion made by Debbie Zahornacky and seconded by Sally Schwaller to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 a.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Dee Kopec, Acting Secretary