



TOWN OF MILFORD, MASSACHUSETTS
MILFORD YOUTH CENTER
MILFORD YOUTH COMMISSION
24 Pearl St., Milford, MA 01757
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Location: Milford Youth Center - Conference Room, 2nd Floor

In-Person **Regular Session** following Executive Session

Date: November 7, 2023

Time: 6:30 pm

Agenda

Members Present: Chair, Brendan Rickert; Vice-Chair, Stacy Darling; Ariea Bryan, Chuck Calagione, John Capece, Darlene Dulude, John Dulude, William Farrell, Jason Vaz
Members Absent: Christine Crean, Gail Jussaume
Staff Present: Iliana Gonzales, Dale Michaud, Emily Stienstra, Jen Ward
Guest: Chris Burns, Community Use

Call to Order

At 6:30 pm, Chair Rickert called the Regular Session meeting to order and performed the roll call.

Motion: **B. Rickert moved to enter into Executive Session at 6:31 pm.**
Seconded: J. Capece
Roll-Call Vote: A. Bryan, aye; C. Calagione, aye; J. Capece, aye; S. Darling, aye; D. Dulude, aye; J. Dulude, aye; W. Farrell, aye; B. Rickert, aye; J. Vaz, aye. Unanimous.
Motion Carries: **9-0**

A. Executive Session: Discussion on behavior and policy

At 6:41 pm, members returned to the Regular Session.

B. Invitation to Speak:
1. Chris Burns, Community Use

C. Burns requested use of the basketball court, half or full court for 2-3 hours on any one weekday the MYC is open, excluding weekends, for travel teams to practice during the season of December 1 through the first week of March. He also requested waiver of the rental fee. He said they would consider paying for one Youth Center staff during the rental.

Members posed questions to C. Burns. A summary of the discussion follows:

- Twenty travel basketball teams need practice space (ten students per team)
- MYC members suggested many facility courts but C. Burns had investigated all spaces.
- C. Burns offered to provide the high school pool once weekly for MYC youth and waive the rental fee of \$225/hour. MYC would pay for one lifeguard per 10 kids at Community Use rate.
- Community Use coaches are CORI checked and thumb printed. The Town provides insurance.
- C. Burns acknowledged MYC would lose profit by waiving the rental fee.
- MYC provided an open calendar with rental fees to C. Burns in July 2023.

- At this late date in November, rental use is booked until 9:00 pm by prepaid renters.
- MYC rental space is not available before 6:30 pm. on most days the After School program runs
- December Gym rental space is inconsistently available throughout the month.

MYC members asked C. Burns to share revenue and cost data for planning for traveler basketball court use. He did not have the financial information available. C. Burns left the meeting so members could continue the discussion.

- Community Use makes roughly \$60,000 for the season December 1 - first week of March.
- MYC does not make \$60,000 annually
- MYC secures one-third of the 10-month After School program funds through rentals.
- Milford teams already receive a discounted, resident rate to use the MYC.
- Loyal renters who support and attended MYC as youths will return in January/February.
- The rental capacity for January and February is anticipated to be too heavy.

Members discussed short and long-term scenarios:

- MYC has no need to use the high school pool.
- The Town holds the MYC Board responsible for revenue.
- MYC Board has been deliberate about rental pricing for residents versus non-residents.
- Waiving the rental fee:
 - Don't set a precedent to favor one group over another especially non-profit rentals.
 - Find a balance and be respectful to renters who support the MYC.
 - Community Use has more players than their space allows so they can make a profit.
- The majority of renters use the full court.
- TDA funding has not been received since the pandemic.
- YouthWorks funding, which is not guaranteed this year, supplemented the loss of TDA.
 - The MYC doesn't have a budget; we have to write and apply for grants.
 - MYC has to pay bills associated with fundraising efforts.

Action Item: Chair Rickert will ask C. Burns for a complete breakdown of revenue and costs.

Pending a Community Use revenue report, members discussed how to support the travelers:

- Convey available 2023 rental dates to C. Burns at the Milford resident rate.
- The rental fee will be 3 hours at \$245 which includes MYC staffing.
- MYC is happy to schedule traveler basketball practice in 2024 at the Milford resident rate.
- Ask C. Burns of Community Use to request rental space in late winter/early spring of 2024.

C. New Business

1. Approve Meeting Minutes 10/10/23

Motion: **B. Rickert moved to approve the meeting minutes of October 10, 2023.**

Seconded: J. Capece

Abstained: S. Darling and A. Bryan abstained as they were not present at the meeting.

Roll-Call Vote: C. Calagione, aye; J. Capece, aye; D. Dulude, aye; J. Dulude, aye;
W. Farrell, aye; B. Rickert, aye; J. Vaz, aye.

Motion Carries: **7-0-2**

2. Fund Balance as of 10/31/23: \$87,410.75
 - MYC is seeking a Ping-Pong table. A Cricket machine has been purchased.
3. Signing of warrants:
 - i. 24-18 Department Budget for \$3,600.00 (One AmeriCorps member for one quarter; FishWorks tank maintenance)
 - ii. 24-17 Revolving Account for \$168.57 (S&S Worldwide for craft supplies)
 - iii. 24-18 Revolving Account for \$2,932.65 (ULine for folding tables, table racks for storage, and a cart to transport stored tables)

Motion: **B. Rickert moved to approve signing the following warrants:**
24-18 Department Budget \$3,600.00 24-17 Revolving Account \$168.57
24-18 Revolving Account \$2,932.65

Seconded: **W. Farrell**

Roll-Call Vote: Unanimously approved.

Motion Carries: **9-0**

D. Directors Report:

1. After School Program:
 - a. October program update:
 - i. Attendance and food #'s – see attachment (average > 90 kids daily)
 - ii. Small Halloween event occurred during After School program on 10/31/23.
 - iii. Pumpkin Collection! Delivered pumpkins to the farm for the animals.
 - b. November program calendar was reviewed
 - Lifeskills (learn to budget) - 10 kids today with Milford Federal Bank
 - Book Club at Library (3 kids)
 - Give Kids the Arts
 - Nutrition program with ConnectEd & Inspired in collaboration with MRMCMilford Regional Medical Center
 - Thanksgiving program, 11/21 from 3:00-5:00 pm
 - Action Item:** Respond by 11/15, food delivered by 1:00 pm
 - Best event to see the kids, Townspeople, and outside groups altogether
 - Donations: BarBell88 \$1,000; NewHuman \$750; Oliva's turkey and fixings for 60 kids
 - Annual calendar month by month
 - No *Celebrate Milford* event this year
 - Kids Play program every Thursday run by Joanna
 - c. Upcoming programs – see fliers
 - GivingTuesday is Tuesday, November 28.
 - Senior Walking has implemented coffee/tea, desserts.
 - Basketball and pickleball in the Gym until the end of December.
 - d. Outside programs – SCI AmeriCorps Update
 - I. Gonzales updated members on her growth, past and future goals for the Youth Council.
 - She was sworn in and attends weekly SCI AmeriCorps meetings in Boston.
 - She is now a YouthWorks supervisor for Signal Success to supervise kids.

- She volunteered at the Boys 'n Girls Club in Woburn.
- She is a student at Merrimack College and started community engagement this winter. She also toured Roxbury Community College.
- J. Ward commended I. Gonzales for her role in training L. Johnson.
 - i. Friday, November 10th – Veterans Day Parade - I. Gonzalez and Landon Johnson recruited YouthWorks members to participate and give a speech.
 - ii. Wednesday, November 8 – Blanket making for community members in need
 - iii. Saturday, November 25, MHS Craft Fair - Youth Council volunteers will make the meal and involve the kids.
 - iv. Shaw's Giveback program - month of December
 - v. Future event - Milford Humane Society - A box has been set up during the holidays to donate items needed for the cat shelter.
 - vi. Future event - Fashion Show (date to be determined)

2. Building Updates:

a. Capital Plan/Town Meeting:

- i. Finance Meeting – thank you Stacy and Brendan! Van approved at Town mtg.
- ii. Town Meeting – Approved – thank you Brendan!
- iii. Jen emailed YMCA to request visit to look at their vans before going to bid.
 - J. Ward will travel to the YMCA in North Attleboro 11/8 to view their vans.
 - No additional driver license is required to drive the van which the Town will insure. Select administrative staff will be authorized to drive the van.
- iv. Other items Board would like to see included in specs:
 - Include as many safety features as possible in the \$70,000 cost (dashcam, navigation, GPS tracker, backup camera. rubberized floor.
 - Post-sale: first aid and biosafety kits, fire extinguisher, emergency roadside kit

3. Donation/Grant Updates:

a. See newsletter for monthly updates for misc. donations: <https://conta.cc/45ULPRR>

- i. \$1,000 Donation from Nouria
- ii. 1,000 Donation from Rose ad Mark Titlebaum
- iii. \$200 Chuck Calagione

b. Youthworks Program:

- i. Bi-Annual YouthWorks Gathering 11/1 (I. Gonzalez and E. Stienstra attended the Marlboro gathering and met many Massachusetts community partners. They are expanding the platform for Signal Success and fighting for funding.
- ii. Summer camp budget - not yet available
- iii. Indirect Cost line item, over \$14,000 we can bill for Town to oversee work they do (cut a check). Town wants us to oversee the work.
 - Members asked, "Can we get lighting for the crosswalk?"

c. Holiday gifts:

- i. 60 from United Way of Tri-County
- ii. GoldFish Swim School Collection
- iii. Cornerstone is adopting an MYC child

- iv. BarBell88 event will donate gifts
 - v. MassCorps will support gifting for 4 kids
 - vi. Last year MYC supplied gifts for 135 kids (3 gifts each)
4. Other Events/Programs:
- a. Annual Calendar- see attachment
 - b. ESL Tour, Thursday, November 9th 1-2 pm - They come during After School program to do a tour the MYC program with their teachers.
 - c. Activation Fund Grantee Reception - Thursday, November 9th in Worcester 3-5:00 pm
 - d. Woodland Potluck Dinner – Thursday, November 9th, 6-7:00 pm,
 - e. CraftRoots for Good Launch Party – November 16th, 6:30-8:00
Board members are welcome to attend. The mission is that a large portion of proceeds go back to the community. They chose MYC as their local recipient of this annual donation.
 - f. Thanksgiving at MYC – Tuesday, November 21st, 3-5:00 pm:
<https://milfordyouthcenter.org/2023/09/28/looking-for-donations-for-our-after-school-myc-thanksgiving-dinner-5/>
 - g. GivingTuesday – Tuesday, November 28th!
 - h. Santa Parade – Sunday, December 3, depends on available staff. Get a trailer to create a float.
 - i. Ken Rosa called to help with the Golf Tournament. Board members are invited to be on the committee.
5. Rentals:
- a. Current and future rentals/MYC programs through March: <https://tinyurl.com/MYCrentals>
 - i. November MYC programs: Senior Walking (mornings) 10-15 walkers daily, MYC Kids Play (morning) 5-15 families weekly, Adult Open Gym, Pickleball < 7 people, Basketball 15-25 people weekly
 - ii. Other November rentals: Respite Center, Basketball, Volleyball, Kitchen Center
 - iii. Non-Profit events: New Human 11/4, 10-1:00pm, \$750 in ticket sales to cover Thanksgiving meal, \$100 to purchase new mats for fitness programs.
6. Other:
- a. Marketing & Communications Assistant re-posted
 - Position posted to Town web site which link is broken. D. Michaud contacted IT to fix the link. Position is advertised on Indeed.com.
 - This staff member was to create a plan for GivingTuesday. J. Ward created a post and added it to the monthly Newsletter.
 - b. Director was asked to participate in Milford Public Schools Equity Audit.
 - Four meeting commitment with community members, teachers, stakeholders and a consultant, to review policies to make the school system more equitable
 - c. Training for MYC staff
Action Item: B. Rickert, S. Darling to speak with Personnel Board to discuss benefit of training all Town staff.
Next steps: Tap into Police force training.

Next agenda item: \$1,000 donation for CraftRoots

7. Upcoming Meeting: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 @ 6:30

Motion: **B. Rickert moved to adjourn the Regular Session at 8:12 pm.**
Seconded: S. Darling
Roll-Call Vote: Unanimously approved.
Motion Carries: **9-0**

The listing of matters above are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items may be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.

Respectfully submitted,

Dale Michaud
Recording Secretary

Name

Date

Documents Used

- MYC Agenda 11/7/23
- MYC Meeting Minutes 10/10/23
- MYC Funds Report
- YouthWorks Program
- MYC November Calendar
- All Monthly Program Fliers