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February 4, 2010

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE**  
**ON YOUTH SERVICES**

The Committee on Youth Services held a meeting on February 4, 2010, with Chairman Dennis Sullivan presiding and Committee Members Alderman Thomas Taylor also present and voting. Also present were Administrative Assistant Matt Dias, Jackie Rossetti from the Communications Office, Amanda Holm from the Youth Council, Director of SCAP Cory Mashburn, Nancy Bacci of the Youth Department, LGBT Liason Raffi Freedman-Gurspan, School Committee Chairman Mark Niedergang, Jim Halloran from the Recreation Department, Marlow Ramdehal, Felicia Murphy and Terrence Bordena.

Ms. Bacci discussed the process of taking applications for the 7 week long summer job program and told the members that applications must be received by April 30, 2010. Ms. Bacci also discussed youth activities involving the Police Department, senior citizens and other segments of the city as well as programs dealing with suicide prevention training and bullying issues. Ms. Bacci also said that a fundraiser was scheduled for February 18<sup>th</sup>, with the proceeds going to towards the relief efforts in Haiti.

Mr. Mashburn discussed the High School health survey and said that the results would be available by July and that he would like to present the results to the School Committee before October. Mr. Niedergang suggested that School Committeeman Paul Bockelman be contacted to schedule a time for the presentation. Mr. Mashburn also informed the members that:

- SCAP will perform alcohol screening at Tufts University,
- the annual SCAP meeting is scheduled for May 27, 2010, but the location has not yet been determined,
- SCAP is applying for a grant, due in May, and that over the last 10 years, \$1 million in grant funds have been secured.

Amanda Holm informed the members that there are 13 members on the Youth Council and she described the council's work with the Police Department and the upcoming Peace Conference, that is expected to have 1,000 people in attendance. The event will focus on Haiti and sexual assaults. The Celebration of Hope and Caring will be at the Moakley Courthouse.

Mr. Halloran discussed the costs of recreation sports and stated that the department's budget is tight. Last year, \$15,000 was available for intramural sports but the program was cut from the current budget. Mr.

Halloran advocated for more funding from the School Department and Mr. Niedergang stated that he would speak with the Superintendent of Schools to attempt to secure the funds.

Ms. Freedmand-Gurspan discussed her concerns about transgendered issues in the elementary schools and stated that a survey would be conducted with the gay community in the city. Ms. Freedmand-Gurspan also told the members that she would speak with transgendered youth regarding suicide issues and that she would also deal with domestic violence issues among gay males.

No papers were acted on.

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Alderman Dennis M. Sullivan, Chairman  
Committee on Youth Services