Bristol Hub Teen Center Community Advisory Board Meeting 6pm

8/1/2019

Members in attendance: Meridith McFarland, Taylor Welch, Alex Mihavics, Chuck, Ray Beaver.

Introductions of Hub staff members and former CAB members (Chuck and Ray)

Topics: What do we want the advisory board to do? What specifically do we want help with? The CAB worked best in the past when it had a specific task.

As a way to increase community engagement at the Hub, Ray suggested we reach out to local groups to offer the Hub as a meeting space. Groups could include: Girl Scout Troop, Church Groups, Boy scouts, 4H club, Sports groups, Band Practice, Alternative ed programs at the school. Continue to work with the mt Abe mentoring program (the hub hosted a game night early in March 2019).

A way to offer more diverse activities at the hub could include getting a small pool table (ray volunteered to help find one). Another way would be to offer a videography program with the support of NEAT TV (Taylor and Meridith have already met with Mary)

Video games at the Hub have been very popular over the couple years. A positive result has been that teens are more socially engaged and more willing to integrate newer teens with teens who have been coming for a while. In short, the games are the icebreaker that allow the teens to get to know one another. The negative is the perception that the teens ‘just play video games’ which can isolate other teens who aren’t into that scene.

Long term goal for the Hub is to find a viable option for a new building either in the same foot print or elsewhere. Meridith has worked with the Rec club to discuss options and while things are still in the developmental stages, things are moving in the right direction. When this was brought up in the past, a sticking point with the director at the time was that building a new building on the existing foot print would displace the teens for a significant amount of time. The important lesson learned from this experience is that the Hub needs to be flexible initially and be willing to find creative solutions to work towards a newer/better facility.

Discussion on people/groups to invite to future meetings:

Involving the Legion is important since they are our neighbors and have been involved in the past. Chief Nason or someone from the Bristol PD. We had scheduled an ‘Interrogate the Chief’ event in October but he was called in and couldn’t make it at the last minute.

State of the Hub Facilities: Outdoor outlet doesn’t work (both plugs), Dishwasher melted a plastic lid which damaged part of the door which may affect the seal. Chuck mentioned that he would keep a lookout for replacements.

Discussed future meeting time and place (September 5th at 6pm at the Hub)

Meeting Adjourned 7pm