



**TOWN OF MILFORD, MASSACHUSETTS**  
**MILFORD YOUTH CENTER**  
MILFORD YOUTH COMMISSION  
24 Pearl St., Milford, MA 01757  
(508) 473-1756 Phone  
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**Milford Youth Commission Minutes**  
**In-Person Meeting**

**Date: November 10th, 2021**

**Time: 6:15pm**

**Location:** Milford Youth Center - Conference Room, 2nd Floor  
24 Pearl St., Milford, MA 01757

**In-Person Members Present:** Ariea Bryan, Michelle Stokes, Darlene Dulude, John Dulude, Chuck Calagione, Brendan Rickert, RJ Sheedy, and Jay Vaz.

**Phone Members Present:** Steve Sousa

**MYC Employees Present:** Jen Ward

**Guests in Attendance:** Paul Seaver, Select Board Chair Michael Walsh, Paul Pellegrini, Chris Burns

- Meeting called to order by RJ Sheedy at 6:18pm, seconded by Chuck Calagione and all in favor via voice vote.
- Brendan Rickert review of first agenda item – **Review of COVID-19 Health Guidelines**
  - Brendan read the email from Dr. Jackie Murphy, Director of the Board of Health. She stated that the event could proceed as long as masks were worn by everyone in the building at all times. She also mentioned her rationale which included vaccination rates and positive case rates.
  - Mr. Walsh “Jackie has concerns but believes we need to get back to normal, the town has invested a lot of money and the building needs to be open. We need to serve the kids.”
  - Chuck Calagione expresses frustration with masks from a communication perspective.
  - Paul Pellegrini- Compliments Jen Ward on how she has handled COVID. “The Youth Center building has been a blessing and we’re here for the kids. This place is a gem. I would see it as a disservice to the town based on other guidelines for the building to not be used more.” He is here to advocate for the kids on how to open things back up.
  - Michelle Stokes “to be clear we have been open and Jen has done a great job”
  - Mr. Walsh- “There’s no bigger supporter but we need to reopen it. I was at a 250 person party, 40 got COVID, we can’t stop living.” Think about being a senior (high school) and how they got robbed.

- Steve Sousa- Thank you all for coming. We do this for the kids, we have been open, we want to keep the kids here, we are grateful for the town's support, we want to avoid risk.
- Brendan Rickert- we have a responsibility for long term health considerations and we have a legal responsibility to the town.
- Darlene Dulude moved the motion to a vote "We vote to take the recommendation of the health department and will consult with any questions moving forward. Steve Sousa seconded. Voice vote unanimous.
- Brendan Rickert review of second agenda item – **Hoops Crew request to host annual ALS Fundraising event**
  - Paul Seaver- This is the 9<sup>th</sup> year of the event, currently using Brookside, Stacey, and the High School. This serves as a pre-season kickoff event for travel basketball program. He is eager to get back to normal and have some positive social and economic impact for the kids and local community. Paul stated "everything will be done by the book."
  - Brendan Rickert raised a concern about a schedule conflict that already exists for Friday.
  - Mr. Walsh respectfully asks to reschedule the group.
  - Jen Ward responds this group has committed to several paying slots and would prefer their contract to be honored. General discussion ensued about changing their time. Paul Seaver said he will cut the hours short on Friday so they wouldn't have to move anyone around.
  - RJ Sheedy asked how many people/teams are attending. Paul Seaver responds- 66 teams, would be more if the Youth Center could be used. 18 in-house teams (Milford teams).
  - Paul Pellegrini- no concessions, bring your own water, no food in the gym. Everyone will be on the lookout for that.
  - Steve Sousa asked Jen about staffing. Jen said she has some confirmed and would need to find a few more. Mr. Walsh asked if we needed more and said he would get a police detail to direct traffic. Chris Burns is the travel coordinator and said he has some additional staff that is helping at all locations.
  - Ariea Bryan asked about the proposed set up of the facility. Paul Seaver explained the layout and set up.
  - Friday 8-5 (7am for set up), Saturday 8-9pm (7am for set up).
  - Darlene Dulude- Asked Paul Seaver about respecting the facility and staff. She asked why he pulled the scholarship. Paul stated the scholarship is run by his mother and nothing to do with him. Paul denies disrespecting the facility and wants to move past previous issues.
  - Steve Sousa bringing the meeting to order and motioned to approve the rental request. Brendan Rickert seconds. Voice vote, Ariea Bryan, Michelle Stokes, Darlene Dulude, Chuck Calagione, Brendan Rickert, RJ Sheedy, and Jay Vaz vote yes. John Dulude abstains.
- Motion to end meeting by Brendan Rickert, seconded by Chuck Calagione. Voice vote, all in favor. Meeting ends 7:35pm.

**Next Meeting:**

In-Person

**Date: Tuesday, December 14th, 2021**

**Time: 6:15pm**

**Location: Milford Youth Center - Conference Room, 2nd Floor  
24 Pearl St., Milford, MA 01757**