

CORE Meeting Minutes **April 17, 2008**

Attending: James Kennedy, Shelley Sweier, Pamela Strzalkowski, Donna Byrne, Cathy Womack, Micheline Sommers, Robert Gaylor, Ellen Kieta, Mary Grace McCarter, Kelly Bennett, Kathryn LeBlanc, Janet Trimbath, David Batres, Peggy White, Patricia Calvin, Lucy Strand, Deborah Ciavattone, Mary George, Barbara Barnes, Jean Bajorek, Jane Hoyle, Carl Einkorn, Jill Williams, Mark Woliung, Laura Unkart

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by Micheline Sommers at 8:25 AM.

Announcements. We went around the room and members introduced themselves and mentioned events coming up this month. Most organizations did have some events to announce. Now that the weather is turning nice, events are proliferating!

Committee Reports:

Membership: Shelley Sweier: Shelley is working on a new Membership List. Please make sure your information is up-to-date and correct. See Shelley to make your changes. additions and deletions.

Events: Ellen Kieta: The calendar was sent to the Suburban Lifestyles and printed the last couple of weeks.

Publicity: Kelly Bennett: No report

Programs: Jill Hollowell: No report

Program: Oakland County Youth Assistance gave a program about the events here in the community that they sponsor. The emphasis was on the Mentoring Program. Cathy Womack gave the presentation about the mentoring program. She explained what the mentor does and where it is offered. Handouts were available with detailed information.

Children eligible for mentoring can be from age 5 to 18. Children in the middle school years tend to need mentoring most.

A mentoring candidate must be able to commit to at least one year. A mentoring relationship is supposed to be for support of the child. It is not a teaching or formal counseling position. It is more listening and informal support. A background check is made of mentoring candidates.

Statistics show that kids involved in a mentoring relationship are 46% less likely to become involved with drugs, 27% less likely to use alcohol, and 52% less likely to skip school.

Matching the mentor with the student takes place once the orientation is complete and the local office helps to match up children and mentors. Sometimes the courts help to assign mentors. One of the mentors shared her experience with

us. It was very moving. She mentors a little girl who lost her mother. Her talk was very moving.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 AM. Next meeting at Dinosaur Hill.

Janet M. Trimbath, Recording Secretary