

ConneCT Kid's Committee

Meeting Minutes

*January 25, 2001
1:30 PM*

Commission on Children, Hartford

Attendees: Beverly Brown, Sean Condon, Linda DeConti, Pat Estill, Dick Hemenway, Karan Kaplan, Miriam Rodriguez

Guest Attendees: Joanne and Fouad Tawfilis

1. Joanne and Fouad Tawfilis gave a presentation to the committee regarding their 3 Mile Mural Project. This project assists school children worldwide in painting 12' x 5' murals in one of three categories – Multicultural/Diversity, Environmental and Native Peoples. 440 murals in each category will be joined to make one continuous mile. When finished, it is hoped that they will be entered in the Guinness Book of World Records. Mr. and Mrs. Tawfilis volunteer their own time and resources to make this project possible.
They gave the committee a background history of the project, showed examples of the murals, distributed pictures of many of the murals, and showed a short video about the project made at Foxwoods. It is their hope that references to the project might be included on the ConneCT Kids website along with information on how children can participate.
This presentation was hastily arranged due to the sudden availability of Joanne and Fouad Tawfilis to attend the meeting and make a personal presentation. I apologize to any committee members who missed the presentation for the lack of notice.
I would ask that committee members consider this request and be prepared to discuss the matter at the next meeting. If you missed the presentation and would like information or would like to view the video, please contact me.
2. Karen Kaplan, Executive Director, Commission on Educational Technology, briefly discussed with the committee the role of her organization in assisting Connecticut schools with technology projects. She is currently engaged in a project through which school children may submit web pages. It is possible that this committee might partner with that effort to publish the pages. Ms. Kaplan agreed to become a ConneCT Kids member and to attend as many meetings as possible. We welcome her presence on the committee.

3. Dick Hemenway showed samples of the bookmarks that will be distributed with the promotional letter. These were approved. Linda DeConti agreed to revise the letter and distribute a new draft for approval.
4. The committee reviewed the material created by Ellen Breault that is posted on the VVV server <http://vvv.kids.state.ct.us/employ/tpsonjob.htm> regarding employment tips for teens. Please review this material if you have not done so and email any comments or suggestions to myself or Ellen. We will discuss it further at the next meeting.
5. Maintenance/ improvement of existing features.

New visiting artist material was posted on the site in the Spotlight area. The new Visiting Artist is Dr. Dennis Waring, who shows how to make homemade musical instruments.

Linda DeConti has indicated that she has new material for the Guest Kids page.

Beverly Brown will be posting a feature on a Connecticut balloonist. She will send the text and graphics links to the Technical Group (Linda or Sean).

Sean and Linda agreed to look at the balloon game

<http://www.powersim.no/demo/websims/HotAir/index.htm> and see if it can be adapted for our site with a Connecticut theme.

6. It was agreed that we will begin restructuring the website to include two other main links – Teens and Parents/Teachers. They will need logos and categories. I will ask the Connecticut Youth Forum to supply a teen logo.
7. Pat Estill reported that Chase Manhattan Bank might be a possible source for funding. She will continue to explore this possibility.
8. Pat Estill requested that committee members review the Danbury After School library site as a good example of a site for older kids <http://www.danbury.org/afterschool/index.htm>.
9. Next meeting date and time – The next meeting is set for February 16, 2001, 2:00pm at the Commission on Children conference room, 18-20 Trinity Street, Hartford.

Dick Hemenway

ConneCT Kids Committee Chair

February 5, 2001