

Public
Comment
4/6/98

#14

Mayor Duehy, Vice Mayor Galluccio and the city council,

I am here to tell you that the Frisoli Youth Center is in need of a full time assistant director starting fiscal year 1998-99. This position is critical for the success of the center. This is a \$4.3 million building with only one full time person. The center has a membership of 487 youths (65% male and 35% female). In one week the center is opened for 34 1/2 hours. We all know that if you don't have staff to run the programs you can't serve the youth and thus are failing them. There are days when the computer lab is closed because Steve doesn't have the staff to man it. While I agree that each room must have a staff person in order to be a safe environment. The reason is unacceptable!

The City of Cambridge, and this city council, all 9 members pledged their support for this center. You promised that their would be adequate funds available. The promise was, we will build you a new youth center and make sure that everything needed would be provided. If you don't have the staff, you can't run the programs. And if you don't run the programs, the youth center will be an empty \$4.3 million building.

The Frisoli Youth center has been nationally recognized. Last week Steve Christo, the director and only full time employee of the Frisoli Youth Center gave a tour to the Mayors of Leominster and Providence. The publicity for the youth center has been great.. We are a model for other communities. I plead with you today in order for this building to remain a safe environment for our children, please approve the funds to hire a full time assistant director for the Frisoli Youth Center. Our children are counting on you!

Clare McDonald
795 Cambridge
Camb 02141

Consent Communicaiton #14

S 839

A communication was received from
Clare MacDonald, 795 Cambridge Street
regarding a need for a full-time
assistant director starting fiscal
year 1998-1999.

In City Council April 6, 1998

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