

MINUTES
REGULAR YOUTH COMMISSION MEETING
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
110 E. MAIN ST.
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 11, 2007

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Jordan Kahler called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Commissioners Present: Michelle Aranovsky, Sydney Burns, Olivia Colliver, Hirsh Goswamy, Peter Hadar, Killian Jackson, Jordan Kahler, Liz Mellema, Brandy Pech, Nicky Robinson, Stanford Stickney, Bronwyn Stone, Amy Zhang

Commissioners Absent: Kelsey Hall, Zach Hershberger

Alternates Present: Cheryl Chapman, Megan Lambert, Leslie Zankich

Alternates Absent: Antonio Garcia, Peter Zou

Staff: Chief Scott Seaman
Sgt. Randy Rimple
Mike Loya, LGS Rec. Dept./A Place for Teens
Irene Shrier, Recording Secretary

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the November 13 meeting. **Passed (13-0)**

VERBAL COMMUNICATION

- Ray Davis spoke to the issue of the Skate Park and the ballot issue Measure D. He encouraged the commission to stay tuned to the issue.
- Steve Leonardis, campaigning to promote Measure D, encouraged members of the commission to sign up as individuals and left a sign up sheet with Jordan Kahler. He also gave a brief history of the skate park and how it has evolved.
- **Kim Daly, project lead for Los Gatos Unleashed, addressed the group and asked that she be put on a future agenda to explain the specific needs and goals of this project.**

YOUTH FORUM

- Pilar Svendsen spoke in support of the skate park and suggested that the park be named in honor of the Barkley boys. The Youth Commission chair and vice chair can address this with the mayor and vice mayor at one of their upcoming meetings.

- Susan Kahng is president of the board of directors for A Place for Teens. She spoke about the success of The Venue and the number of kids that spend time there each day. There is a great need for adult and teen board members. She also addressed Safe Rides and explained to the commission that the purpose of the program is to provide safe rides home for kids between 10 p.m. and 2 a.m. All the volunteers are in their last year of high school this year and without underclassmen volunteers there will be no program next year. Steve Leonardis volunteered to be a supervising adult. Brandy Pech will work in the leadership class to get volunteers to help. Susan also explained the Under 21 Club to the commission. It is an open mic club which meets one Friday night a month at the Los Gatos Coffee Roasting Company with the goal of keeping kids from drinking and driving. There is a \$5 fee which includes a free cup of coffee. Underclassmen volunteers are also needed to keep this program running next year.

ITEMS OF DISCUSSION

Sub-Committee Reports

- Participation on sub-committees was discussed. It was suggested that guidelines be set up for those who volunteer to be part of sub-committees so that commitments are honored.
- Can members (kids) from the community be involved in a sub-committee? Chief Seaman responded that commissioners are representatives of kids in the community so, yes, they can be involved.
- **A motion was made by Bronwyn Stone and seconded by Stanford Stickney to create a sub-committee to establish guidelines for sub-committees. (Passed 13-0)**
- Liz and Olivia agreed to co-chair this sub-committee with participation from Nicky, Peter and Bronwyn.
- Commissioners were strongly encouraged to read and respond to their emails.

Skate Park Committee

- Bronwyn is the chair of the skate park committee.
- What role/involvement does the youth commission want to consider for the future? **We will agendize this for next month's meeting.**

Art

There was discussion about the value of offering art classes to the kids in the community. **We will agendize this for next month's meeting and Mike Loya will speak to this item.**

Publicity Committee

The committee consists of Olivia Colliver, Chair, Brandy Pech, Amy Zhang, Killian Jackson, Cheryl Chapman, Megan Lambert and Hirsh Goswamy.

Mini Grant

Amy Zhang needs help with publicity for this project. Olivia and Amy will work on a solution.

Project Cornerstone

- Chief encouraged the group to focus on an asset and find a way to highlight it. The commission felt that everything they do revolves around some of the assets.
- Much discussion followed about whether we should pursue this as a project.
- A sub-committee was formed to study the issue and will report back. Peter Hadar and Stanford Stickney will co-chair this group. Other sub-committee members are Megan Lambert, Jordan Kahler, and Olivia Colliver.
- **The Invisible Children program was mentioned. It will be agendized for a future meeting.**
- **A report on the NLC conference will be agendized for the next meeting.** Items of discussion will include a report on the conference, environmental issues and immigration.

ITEMS OF INFORMATION

Grant Opportunity – No information was available.

COMMISSION MATTERS

- **The issue of retail valuing youth in the community was briefly addressed. This will be agendized at a future meeting.**
- **We will also agendize “How to conduct a productive meeting” at a future meeting.**

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.