

MINUTES
REGULAR YOUTH COMMISSION MEETING
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
110 E. MAIN ST.
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 10, 2006

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called or order by Chair Reeta Banerjee at 7:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Commissioners Present: Reeta Banerjee, Hallie Barnes, Jonathan Berthet, Olivia Colliver, Peter Hadar, Zach Hershberger, Jordan Kahler, Stanford Stickney, Bronwyn Stone, Jan Van Bruggen, Ashley Yuki, Amy Zhang

Commissioners Absent: Liz Mellema, Nicky Robinson, Ellen Rockdale

Alternates Present: Rachel Carson, Kelsey Hall, Susan Kahng, Jason Louie, Lindsey Trone

Staff: Chief Scott Seaman
Captain David Gravel
Mike Loya, LGS Rec. Dept./A Place for Teens
Jackie Rose, Clerk Administrator

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion made by Hallie Barnes and seconded by Stanford Stickney to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2006 meeting. **Passed (12-0)**

VERBAL COMMUNICATION

None this evening.

ITEMS OF DISCUSSION

Development of the 2006-2007 Work Plan

Website

Consensus by the commission to keep the website design and content on the work plan.

Skate Park

Jordan Kahler expressed interest in staying involved with the Skate Park proposed for the Town. Chief Seaman explained to the Commission that there was already a Town committee for the Skate Park and suggested that if the Youth Commission wanted to stay involved that they create a liaison from the Youth Commission to the Skate Park Committee. **The commission agreed and Jordan Kahler and Stanford Stickney agreed to be the liaisons and would report back to the commission as appropriate.**

Ms. Banerjee opened discussion for public comment. Mr. Davis suggested that the Youth Commission attend the Planning Commission meeting on October 11, 2006 since an item relating to extending the request for a permit for the Skate Park will be discussed. He also commented on park dedication fees relating to the Town.

Movie Night

The movie night, which was on last year's work plan, was taken off of this year's plan. The commission felt that the goal of getting more youth movies at the Los Gatos Cinema was accomplished. The commission didn't feel they should spend time trying to plan a formal "movie night" this year. **Motion by Jordan Kahler to remove movie night from the work plan. Seconded by Jan Van Bruggen. Passed (12-0)**

Facilitate Additional Youth Activities

The commission discussed duties relating to youth activities and commented that the Youth Commission's job is not to put on events, but to facilitate and support activities with existing organizations. The commissioners agreed that they would offer help at such events. **Consensus by the commission to leave this item on the current work plan.**

Youth Forums/On-Line Forums

Olivia Colliver suggested holding "youth forum speak outs" three times a year (December, March, and May) with the first one being in December, 2006. Peter Hadar questioned the rules of the Brown Act relating to on-line forums. Chief Seaman suggested the use of on-line forums be used to gather ideas from the community, and suggested the website could be used as a communication tool to reach students and spread information related to the youth in the community. The commission asked for clarification relating to holding a special meeting for events. **Consensus from commission to continue working on the youth forum events.** Reeta Banerjee and Jordan Kahler recapped what was involved in planning a forum. Bronwyn Stone, Olivia Colliver, Susan Kahng, Jon Berthet, and Ashley Yuki volunteered to form a sub-committee to put together the forums. **Consensus from the commission to hold a December 2006 forum with the sub-committee to begin work on the December 2006 event.**

Publicity Efforts

Suggestions to inform the youth in Town that there is an active Youth Commission included working with the school government groups, word of mouth through the parents, attending school meetings, using the school's morning announcements, and using the Youth Commission website to distribute information. Jordan Kahler suggested starting a Youth Commission web page on the "My Space" website. The commission

requested staff direction regarding the legal options relating to a “My Space” web page for the commission.

Staff suggested that each commissioner pick a class at school and ask the teacher if he or she would be willing to give them five minutes during class to discuss the Youth Commission with their classmates. The commission also expressed interest in posting boards at their schools prior to each Youth Commission meeting. **Consensus by the commission to pursue these ideas and continue publicity efforts as part of the work plan.** Representatives for this sub-committee are Jordan Kahler, Stanford Stickney, Ashley Yuki , and Olivia Colliver and Bronwyn Stone.

Healthy Youth

Jordan Kahler presented an update regarding the efforts by the Youth Commission sub-committee relating to the Healthy Youth project. The commission felt that since a bill had been passed requiring healthier food to be served at the schools, this project should be removed from the work plan. **Consensus by the commission to remove the Healthy Youth project from the work plan.**

Mini Grants

Olivia Colliver gave an update regarding the sub-committee’s accomplishments. Reeta Banerjee commented that this sub-committee provides funds for youth projects. She also stated that the Police Foundation has provided \$100.00 to draw upon for mini grants selected by the Youth Commission. Clarification was requested regarding fund raising options for the Youth Commission. Mike Loya offered his services to teach the Youth Commission the process for grant writing. **Consensus from the commission to pursue the mini grant project for the work plan.** Amy Zhang, Peter Hadar, Bronwyn Stone, and Hallie Barnes volunteered to run the sub-committee for mini grants.

Reeta Banerjee suggested that the commissioners meet after the meeting to decide a time and place to hold respective sub-committee meetings, and that these meetings should take place prior to the November Youth Commission meeting.

Youth Commission Adopted Planter Box

Jordan Kahler presented an update regarding the Youth Commission’s adopted planter box located on N. Santa Cruz Avenue, in front of the U.S. Bank. The Planter was recently cleaned up by the Kahler family, and still needs attention and new plants. Reeta Banerjee suggested that the commission select a responsible member to oversee the care and maintenance of the planter box through coordination with other commissioners. Mr. Hall offered to purchase all the plants and help to restore the box. Kelsey Hall/Lindsay Trone offered to head the sub-committee to maintain the box. Reeta Banerjee passed a calendar/sign-up sheet for commissioners to volunteer times to maintain the box. **Consensus to schedule October 14, 2006 at 2:00 p.m. as the planter box maintenance day.**

Review of the Speak-out Event Items

Dog Parks

Commission recommendation was to send letter to Parks Commission relating to the need for dog parks in Los Gatos. **Consensus to drop this item from the work plan.**

Curfew Change

The commission asked Chief Seaman if staff could come to next meeting to explain the rule relating to the Town's Curfew Ordinance. **Consensus to leave this item on work plan for consideration.**

Need for Raising Funds for the Venue

Consensus for Youth Commission to act as an advisory for funding efforts and keep in contact with Mike Loya for any help needed from the commission. Commission also agreed that this should not be on the work plan for reasons stated above.

Youth Activities in Town

Suggestion from commission to explore options relating to youth-oriented activities in Town. **Consensus to look into options and add this item to the work plan.** Jan Van Bruggen, Olivia Colliver, and Zack Hershberger will be the sub-committee for this item.

VTA Free Bus Issue

The commission felt that this item has been addressed. **Consensus to drop this issue from the work plan.**

Discussion on Youth Friendly Businesses to Come to Town

The commission requested staff to give presentation regarding businesses in the Town. Danielle Surdin, Economic Vitality Manager, will be at the November Youth Commission meeting to give a presentation and answer questions. **Consensus to add this item to the work plan.**

Healthy Choices Around School

Consensus to discuss this issue at the November Youth Commission meeting.

Outreach

Consensus from the commission to pursue this issue as part of the Youth Forum sub-committee.

Reeta Banerjee directed the commission to follow-up with issues discussed at the sub-committee meetings at the next Youth Commission meeting.

Jan Van Bruggen requested that the Youth Commission take an advisory roll regarding the issues relating to Segways. Jan Van Bruggen has agreed to attend the Council meeting when the issue will be discussed, and follow-up with the Youth Commission on the Segway issue.

The Planter Box sub-committee agreed to meet with Mr. Hall at 2:00 p.m. at the planter box located in front of the U.S. Bank Building on N. Santa Cruz Avenue.

Mike Loya presented the Youth Commission with an update on the League of California Cities event held in Reno this December.

Motion by Jordan Kahler to adjourn meeting. Seconded by Ashley Yuki.
Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.