

MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS
COMMISSION ON CHILDREN YOUTH & FAMILIES
OCTOBER 5, 2017 – 6PM
FARMINGTON HILLS CITY HALL, COMMUNITY ROOM

CALLED TO ORDER BY: Chair, Kathy Ashcraft at 6:00 pm.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kathy Ashcraft, Amber DeLind, Diane Hague, Tony Lewis, Joan McGlincy, Jim Nash, Marla Parker, Bette Rose, Mitch Seelye, Sharon Snodgrass and Brian Spitsbergen.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ed Cherkinsky, Jaymi Dormaier, Anwar Mahmood, Abby Sacco, Erica Saum, Sharon Snodgrass and Eugene Thomas.

OTHERS PRESENT: Farmington and Farmington Hills Council, City, or Staff Liaison members and friends of the Commission: Todd Anderson, Jessica Cummings, Becky Dworkin, Todd Lipa, Jon Manier, Chuck Nebus, Laurie Scott and Samantha Steckloff.

GUEST SPEAKER: George Heitsch, Superintendent of FPS

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

It was suggested that the agenda is amended to include guest speaker, George Heitsch, Superintendent of Farmington Public Schools to speak on the upcoming ballot initiative in November.

MOTION by McGlincy, support by Seelye, to approve the agenda as amended.
Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 7, 2017:

MOTION by Seelye, support by Rose, to approve the minutes of September 7, 2017 as submitted.
Motion carried unanimously.

YOUTH DIVISION UPDATE:

Todd Lipa: We have good numbers at Warner Middle School and it is now a 5 day a week program. The Costick Center is up 70-80 students, the Ice Arena has a slight decrease and there is an increase at the Jon Grant Center. There is an increased need in the students' financial and family life. There is a great staff in the After School Program.

ISSUES COMMITTEE UPDATE:

Diane Hague: She has asked Khalfani Stephens, Farmington Hills Economic Development Director of the school district asking him to have the manufacturing companies that come to his "Manufacturing Day" come to our Tech Night. There was a discussion about lack of Middle School interest and attendance for a College Night. A suggestion was made to market it to a 30+ crowd. Our next focus is planning an event geared to the caregivers of the aging which would include participation by area nursing homes, home caregivers, etc. Kathy suggested also focusing on older parents moving in with younger families and the issues presented. Jim suggested bringing in a Veteran speaker that could inform Veterans about benefits available to them.

CALL TO ACTION UPDATE:

Mitch Seelye: Mitch and Becky emphasized the CTA Breakfast scheduled for Friday, October 6 at 7:00 am. At the Costick Center. This is the only fund raising event for CTA and it is important for the Commission to support it. The Headline Speaker is Deborah Jay, a Certified Addiction Counselor who has been on Oprah. 35 kids will be taken to Zoo Boo next Saturday.

SPOTLIGHT SHOW UPDATE:

Diane Hague: A show is scheduled for October 17 focusing on Karen, a caregiver of dementia patients. A future show will have a Yoga instructor speak about Yoga and its effect on stress. We need a link to the schedule and will speak to Jacob.

GUEST SPEAKER – GEORGE HEITSCH, SUPERINTENDENT OF FPS:

Presentation-Overview of Restoration Millage on November ballot: This is a non-homestead millage, but if passed it will continue to levy 18 mills on all commercial, business, rental properties, vacant land and second home properties. Because inflation has increased slower than home values increasing, the Headlee tax limitation amendment passed by the voters in 1978 reduces the millage from 18% to 17.8%. The District will lose \$170,000 each year if this millage restoration is not approved. No homeowner will be affected on their individual property t

NEW BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Samantha Steckloff, City Council Liaison: The reorganization of the Boards and Commissions has been completed after 16 months. Liaisons are important because of their input and connection to the City. Citizens do the voting and the City owes them the responsibility of having a streamlined and efficient system of government. There are now openings on many Boards and Commission because of the freeze on putting new people on them.

C.A.R.E.S. OF FH.: Per Todd, C.A.R.E.S. Are the initials for Community, Action, Resources, Empowerment, Services. There is an open house on Sunday, October 15 from 1 to 4 pm. Two grant proposals have been written, one requesting 25 million and the other requesting 4 million to rebuild a campus helping people and eventually expanding to include some of Southfield, Redford and Livonia. The project is expected to take 4 to 5 years.

Chuck Nebus, Farmington Hills Police Chief: Chuck is scheduled to speak at the CTA Breakfast on Friday. Everything is going well at the Police Department. PAWS award were recently presented.

Jim Nash: Water Resource Commissioner: Halsted between 13 Mile Rd. and 14 Mile Rd. will be repaired at the cost of 1.5 Mills. The project will start in 2018 and there will be a new design to prevent flooding. The Rouge River Festival is at Cranbrook Monday through Friday and 1500 kids are expected. They would like more FPS students. They could use Park buses to transport students. Todd informed us that the After School kids have a ½ day on Friday and there is an opportunity to take them. Jim also let us know that Waste Water Plant tours are available. Todd thanked Jim for resolving a problem with water shut-off.

Amber DeLind, Center for MI.-BRIDGE Magazine: There is a party scheduled for October 26 at 6:00 pm at Granite City to thank the readers of Bridge Magazine.

Marla Parker, 47th District Court Judge: Sobriety Court Graduation is scheduled for October 25 at 5:30 pm. October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Laura Scott, Farmington Hills Community Library: CYF recognized Mildred Babcock with a Volunteer Reward for her work at the Library. At the funeral, her niece mentioned how much the family was honored to have her recognized. Library is doing well. This Saturday will be a Star Wars themed event.

Todd Anderson, Farmington Public Services: The Department sponsored several “coffee with cops days” at Starbucks. Many Community members have requested more of them.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION by McGlincy, support by Rose, to adjourn the meeting at 6:50pm.

Motion carried unanimously

Respectfully submitted by,

Diane Hague/Ed Cherchinsky