

MINUTES
COMMISSION ON CHILDREN, YOUTH and FAMILIES
FARMINGTON/FARMINGTON HILLS
DECEMBER 2, 2021

THE HAWK, FARMINGTON HILLS COMMUNITY CENTER (formerly known as Harrison H.S.)
Second Floor, Harrison Room located at 29995 W. Twelve Mile Rd., Farmington Hills, Mi. 48334

- 1) Call to Order 6:00 pm.

The meeting was called to order at 6:09 p.m. by Ed Cherkinsky. With some new faces at the meeting we did a roundtable introduction of everyone present at the meeting.

Present: Tammy Luty, Mary Newlin, Sharon Snodgrass, Marie Sarnacki, Marla Parker, Nyasha Boyd, Jordan Scrimger, Matthew Gale, Jason McDonald, Brian Spitsbergen, Ed Cherkinsky, Diane Hague, Bette Rose

- 2) Approval of Agenda

The agenda was motioned for approval by Ed Cherkinsky, and 2nd by Sharon Snodgrass. All approved.

- 3) Approval of October 7, Minutes

The minutes from October were motioned by Ed Cherkinsky and 2nd by Diane Hague. All approved.

- 4) Youth Division Update

The update included that the Afterschool program is planning on starting back in January but there can be no transportation from schools as Farmington Public Schools is missing 22 bus drivers and so no transportation to the After School Program to The Hawk can be provided. This will limit student participation. The city is in the process of hiring a person to oversee the Youth & Families Afterschool program. The program is planned to run on Tuesday and Thursday afterschool at The Hawk. Alternatives to this would be to discuss with the schools to see if the buildings can be used for the program as was done in the past at Warner Middle School.

- 5) Issues Committee Update

Diane Hague brought all the past information from the prior Tech Night events to the meeting. She will be out of town for three months and was looking for someone to take the information since at our prior meeting it was discussed and recommended by Jim Nash that we bring this event back because there still is a need for it. We would need a group to work on the program. Some discussion happened about when the event would take place and where due to us still being in a pandemic. It was discussed that maybe the event should be moved from March to May where it could also be held outside versus inside a building. The information was passed to Marie Sarnacki.

The focus of the issues meeting in the past was discussed and this group had always met the Monday morning before the Thursday evening meeting. We discussed due to new members work schedules that the meeting should be an evening meeting and could be either a virtual Zoom Meeting or the meeting could be held right before the Thursday evening meeting. Jordan Scrimger offered that if it was done by Zoom she would be able to setup the link for the meeting. The issues committee takes ideas and then flushes out the idea and comes back with projects they want to work on.

6) Call to Action Vote for dissolution and disbursal of funds

The Call to Action still has \$8,400 dollars left in the treasurer fund but no one left to run the program. Sharon Snodgrass raised a concern that if this program had been for addiction and violence, the purposes of the organization should be honored and give the gift to CARES but with a recommendation on how the funds should be used. She had already discussed with Todd Lipa and they are starting a program in this area in the near future.

We had a motion to dissolve the Call to Action. It was motioned by Sharon Snodgrass and 2nd by Brian Spitsbergen. All Approved.

The 2nd motion was to “Disburse funds to CARES 501c(3) for purposes of substance abuse and violence prevention use.” There were 8 votes in favor and no votes against.

7) Spotlight Show Update

Sharon Snodgrass gave an update and said that she needs to talk to the city program manager Jacob Nothstin for the status of the video/filming of the city and how to better get to our target market. We need to find topics and how to share the information better so more people are getting the information from our committee.

8) Volunteer Recognition Program

A discussion was had on if this program should continue this year because of the pandemic some places are using less volunteers. With the passing of Nancy Bates and this being one of her key past programs we felt that we should do the program this year. We felt there were still volunteers but we may have less applications submitted. The process in the pass was that awards would be announced at a May City Council meeting. There are several different types of awards: Family, Child, Business, Youth, Adult, Organization, Charity and Distinguished Public Servant Award, and the Romney Award.

Dates of the program will be determined by the May City Council Meeting date and Judge Marla Parker will be the main one involved in this program. Mary Newlin will check to get a date of future meetings to Marla Parker.

9) New Business and Announcements

We discussed inviting the new Superintendent of Farmington Public Schools to a future meeting and Tammy Luty will follow up with the district to see if he can attend our next meeting.

Tammy Luty also suggested that a future issue we should consider doing work around is Mental Health. Farmington High School had just had a student pass away due to suicide on Thanksgiving and with the recent high school shooting in Oxford and the Pandemic it was something that is affecting families and youth right now. It was discussed that we could partner with Farmington SAFE on this type of program. Mary Newlin will check with Ken Massey to see if they have anything planned this year so we don't duplicate efforts.

10) Future objectives and plans including election of new officers

This was moved to the January meeting.

10) Public Comments

We held a moment of silence to honor Nancy Bates who was a visionary and did work for this committee to start.

11) Adjournment 8:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

NOTE: Anyone planning to attend the meeting who has need of special assistance under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is asked to contact the City Clerk's Office at 871-2410 at least two (2) business days prior to the meeting, wherein necessary arrangements/accommodations will be made. Thank you.