

Meeting Minutes  
Farmington/Farmington Hills  
Commission on Children Youth and Families  
February 1, 2024  
Community Room, Farmington Hills City Hall  
31555 W Eleven Mile Rd, Farmington Hills, MI 48336

1. Call to order
  - a. Meeting called to order at 6:01pm
  - b. Members present: Jordan Scrimger, Rod Wallace, Sharon Snodgrass, Alisa Valden, Tanya Nordhaus, Brian Spitsbergen, Adam Whitfield
  - c. Members absent: Ashley Gabb, Tammy Luty, Marie Sarnacki, Colleen Coogan
  - d. Others present: Mayor Theresa Rich, Kristel Sexton, Matt Gale, Bria Barker-Lewis, Jim Nash, Andy Radz, Pat Spelman
2. Approval of Agenda
  - a. Rod moved, Tanya seconded
  - b. Motion passes unanimously
3. Approval of Jan 4 Minutes
  - a. Tanya moved, Sharon seconded
  - b. Motion passes unanimously
4. Youth Division Update
  - a. Matt gave the update. 300 kid goal reached for the after school program
    - i. Partnered with nature center and kids were able to make wreaths and lanterns and got to go on a nature walk
    - ii. Bus driver is back from medical leave
    - iii. Couple new staff members hired
  - b. Partnered with PlayLabs to provide 4 dates paid by city for students to participate in only gaming center
    - i. PlayLabs is an esports organization who the city will be offering camps for during the summer
    - ii. No cost for 4 dates for students
    - iii. PlayLabs will be offering a demo for an NFL draft party
  - c. Name tags will be ordered for commission members
5. Issues Committee Update
  - a. Career Night:
    - i. Jordan: Career night: Wed March 20. 6:30 pm - 8 pm. Draft flier created. Request to look over vendor list (sent via email) and see if we can recruit more. Ashley asked how many students came last year but a number wasn't immediately known.
    - ii. Sharon: More vendors and students are needed. Where can we put the fliers where they will be seen by more students? The Hawk pass that was given out was very popular
    - iii. Jim Nash: County Intermediate Schools should be contacted to put the word out to their students. Jim and Sharon will connect over a contact person.

- iv. Matt: Asked if we should get a new banner and there was a discussion about getting a reusable banner that the date can be changed on and where to put it in The Hawk.
  - b. Volunteer awards Monday May 20. Ashley is helping Marla organize. Come to next CYAF meeting early at 5:30 to connect with Marla about helping if you are so inclined.
  - c. Website updates are complete with new details of recent projects and fixed hyperlinks. No more stock photos
  - d. If you need access to the Google Drive to see the templates and documents, just ask.
  - e. Non-binding vote on new logo design
    - i. Brian motioned for a vote. Tanya seconded.
    - ii. Results: Design A: 5 votes - Design B: 2 votes
    - iii. Design A will move forward through an approval process with the city to make sure there are no issues with copyright infringement
    - iv. There was a discussion about the logo on a banner. Matt and Sharon will explore options.
  - f. Rod talked about a mental health awareness event that he is planning with Brian on April 27 or 20.
    - i. Brian mentioned a similar event that Plymouth puts on. Theirs is on the 27 so the 20th might be better
    - ii. There will be a booth at the farmer's market.
    - iii. Have materials from local psychiatric professionals.
    - iv. Brian asked Pat if there would be any issues with the farmer's market with the city. Pat gave the name of someone at the city to contact.
    - v. Kristel mentioned that the farmer's market isn't open in April. It starts in May and May is also mental health awareness month. It may be moved to May
    - vi. Mayor Rich commented how mental health is on the forefront of issues for her and the city and they're thinking about doing a mental health symposium in the fall.
    - vii. There was a discussion about things to include and additional times/locations that a booth could be at as well.
6. New Business and Announcements
- a. Mayor Rich:
    - i. Bill Dwyer will be the new Farmington Hills City Council Liason.
    - ii. Working on a monthly fun event.
    - iii. Working on a disaster response plan where the mayor can declare a disaster if the power goes out for an extended period and open low interest loans to local business owners.
    - iv. Doing a lot of weddings and has a vow renewal event planned for Valentines Day.
    - v. Farmington Hills is hosting an NFL draft event. Family friendly. March 19 5:30 - 7:30 at the Hawk. Paid by the NFL. More details still forthcoming. The city will have a big spotlight.
    - vi. Deer are still a problem. There is a monthly dinner of metro Detroit mayors and the March dinner will have a spotlight topic of deer control.
    - vii. Starting coffee hours. February 17 first one. 11:00 am at The Hawk.
    - viii. Monthly Walk at The Hawk with the major event being planned

- ix. Quarterly lunch at the Costick Center with seniors. First event in March.
  - b. Kristel Sexton
    - i. Library has 2 special events coming up.
      - 1. Adaptive Story Time for kids age 3 - 11 with disabilities and their caregivers. Needs participants
      - 2. Poetry Slam arranged by a student
    - ii. Narcan station at library is popular. Jim asked where the funding came from. Pat said it came from the state as a result of the opioid lawsuit settlements
  - c. Matt Gale
    - i. Chili Golf Event February 10
    - ii. Daddy Daughter Dance February 9 and 10
    - iii. Capes and Crowns superhero event March 1
  - d. Jim Nash
    - i. Feel free to come shadow at the water department.
  - e. Andy Radz
    - i. Oakland County Polar Plunge February 3 to raise money for special olympics f.
  - Pat
    - i. Narcan station also set up outside police headquarters
    - ii. Heights Brewing Co opening February 10
  - g. Jordan
    - i. Black History Month kicking off
7. Public Comments
- a. None
8. Adjournment
- a. Sharon motioned. Tanya seconded
  - b. Meeting adjourned at 7:07 pm