

**MEETING MINUTES
FARMINGTON/FARMINGTON HILLS
COMMISSION ON CHILDREN, YOUTH and FAMILIES
January 6, 2022
Community Room, Farmington Hills City Hall,
31555 W. Eleven Mile Rd., Farmington Hills, MI. 48336**

- 1) Call to Order 6:00 pm.

Meeting was called to order by Bette Rose at 6:05 pm.

Present: Tammy Luty, Bette Rose, Rod Wallace, Edward Cherkinsky, Jeff Boyle, Patrick Spelman, Marla Parker, Jordan Scrimger, Mare Sarnacki, Adam Whitfield, Jeff King, Jim Nash, Mary Newlin, Chris Delgado, Sharon Snodgrass

- 2) Approval of Agenda

Sharon Snodgrass approved the agenda and Ed Cherkinsky seconded and all approved.

- 3) Approval of December 2, 2021 Minutes

Sharon Snodgrass approved the agenda and Ed Cherkinsky seconded and all approved.

- 4) Guest Speaker – Farmington Public Schools Superintendent – Chris Delgado

A round table of introductions by members was made to Superintendent Chris Delgado. So Chris Delgado would get a chance to know members of the community.

The Superintendent started on July 1st, he lives in the district near the old Eagle Elementary school area. He believes public education is a source of advancement, as he was a first generation college graduate. He married right out of college and started his education career teaching Spanish after a few years he moved back to Michigan and continued to teach and moved up to administration positions in a couple of Oakland County districts. He came to FPS from Walled Lake School district.

He mentioned how our community is very polarized. His goal is to work on academic achievement. He wants to make sure to focus on all students, which may include learning interventions for struggling students or dual enrollment for students at the top. He also mentioned how lucky we are to have career tech opportunities with the Oakland Campus Technical Center available to our students.

The stress and pressure of students was discussed including impacts of social media on students. Recently a couple of high school students came up with a list of information to help students with mental health resources, the district has shared this with the community.

On the topic of mental health, Carmen Francis shared the book Relevant Life Skills for Young Adults with Chris Delgado and a few committee members. This book is great for high school students.

Tammy Luty mentioned to the superintendent the Prepare U Program that some other Oakland County districts are using in health class that helps students with mental health issues as well.

Marla Parker explained to the superintendent what the F/FH Commission is about, it was started in 1993 and for a while included the Call to Action group for substance abuse. It was also the group that started the After School Youth Program.

A Centralized Enrollment process was discussed where families instead of going to multiple school buildings could come to central office and enroll all their students at one location. They will also have resources for families available during this process for other services.

The superintendent was asked what issues the commission could help with, examples included school safety, homelessness, and food insecurity. It would be helpful if the district has data on some of these issues, to share so we can determine what would have the biggest impact on families in our community.

Various members discussed how the committee used to have a board of education member as a liaison to represent FPS. Since the last person no longer serves on the BOE we either need a new BOE member or a district representative, as it would be helpful to have a school district liaison to partner with our committee.

5) Youth Division Update

After school program is starting in January, but with a huge decline in enrollment from the past mostly due to lack of transportation. They currently have about 15 students registered and in the past the program use to support over 400 students. Moving the program to The Hawk allows more experiences for the students and is like having a membership for the free to use the resources of the building during the afterschool program for these students. Transportation is an issue to keep the program going. Matt Gate requested a meeting with Chris Delgado to see what FPS could do to help with the transportation or if other building locations could be used so a plan could be put in place for how the program will look in the fall.

6) Issues Committee Update

A meeting was held on 1/4/2022 and meeting minutes were distributed at the meeting. A tentative date of April 21, 2022 for our career tech event was set by the issues committee. Matt Gate was able to put a hold on Hawk Hall and The Auditorium/Courtyard area until we have more of a decision which location will work.

Matt Gate believes our folders may have been damaged as several items in the storage unit were damaged, he will double check. It was determined no food at this event but a non-food item giveaway and possible raffle prizes would be a better option due to the pandemic.

7) Call to Action Update

Ed Cherkinsky had no updates and did not know if the check was given to CARES or if the attorneys are still looking into the paperwork.

8) Spotlight Show Update

Sharon Snodgrass shared information about her meeting with the city. They have all our old YouTube videos and the city is in the process of updating their Website. The videos are on many different topics that benefit youth/family. Sharon mentioned the new video area that is located at The Hawk. We need to make sure to find ways to make our presentations more effective. A possible option of creating our own commission Facebook page where we can share small videos and information about events was discussed in the issues meeting on 1/4/22.

The city will have a new website in a month and that may allow more options for our commission data to be displayed differently.

Sharon Snodgrass is happy to write the scripts for the videos but would like someone else to be the host.

9) Volunteer Recognition Program

Marla Parker will still be the lead on this program. A tentative date of the May 9th city council meeting was considered as an option to do the volunteer recognition program. Mary Newlin will check the date for us with Farmington Hills City Council.

Advertising needs to happen to accept nominations normally email goes to non-profits in the city including schools, clubs, and faith based organizations. Nominations need to be reviewed and plaques/certificates purchased. In the past anyone that was nominated received an award. Winners will need to be determined by the April meeting.

Ed Cherkinsky, Bette Rose, and Mary Newlin and Marla Parker agreed to be on the committee.

Matt Gate will ask Kitty Ostach if she can help as she was involved in this before and may have all the information to help us with the marketing piece.

It was asked if we had a list of past Romney award winners and Marla Parker has the information since we have not been able to find the plaque.

10) New Business and Announcements

Updates were shared. Jeff King shared information about the new cadet program for the police department. This program will help more applicants be able to apply for positions as it pays up to \$9000 to cover the costs to attend the Police Academy.

Jeff King will be involved in a benefit for the Special Olympics, the Polar Plunge on February 5th. So far the Farmington team has raised over \$2,800 and has 10 people with 3 jumpers

involved in the program. The Oakland county goal is to raise \$50,000.

Jeff King also mentioned protocols and procedures have been in place since March 2020 for covid and they continue to follow the process.

Sharon Snodgrass shared about the Farmington Voice online newspaper going away December 31, 2021 and how this will be a lost for our community to get information of what is happening in our community.

Tammy Luty shared the list of committee members that was updated with email addresses. Several email address were not matching a member on the list. Tammy will work with Ed Cherkinsky to see if the list can be updated with more information.

11) Election of Officers

We held an election of officers.

Secretary nomination of Tammy Luty by Jordan Scrimger and second by Bette Rose and vote was taken all in favor.

President nomination of Bette Rose by Jordan Scrimger and second by Marie Sarnacki and vote was taken all in favor.

Vice President nomination of Sharon Snodgrass by Ed Cherkinsky and second by Marie Sarnacki and vote was taken all in favor.

12) Public Comments

None

13) Adjournment

8:00 pm.

Motion by Sharon Snodgrass and second by Marie Sarnacki all in favor and meeting was adjourned at 7:54 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.