

Meeting Minutes
Farmington/Farmington Hills
Commission on Children Youth and Families
June 6, 2024
Nature Center, Heritage Park
24915 Farmington Rd, Farmington Hills, MI 48336

1. Call to order
 - a. Meeting called to order at 6:04 pm
 - b. Members present: Adam Whitfield, Sharon Snodgrass, Alisa Valeden, Tammy Luty, Tanya Nordhause, Bria Barker-Lewis, Rod Wallace
 - c. Members absent: Brian Spitsbergen, Colleen Coogan, Bhumika Mistry, Ashley Gabb, Marie Sarnacki, Jordan Scrimger
 - d. Others present: Marla Parker, Doug Edwards, Matt Gill, Kimberly Luty, Jenny Willard, Jenny Vanderholen
2. Approval of Agenda
 - a. Sharon read the agenda as there was not a printed copy available for everyone
 - b. Sharon moved, Rod seconded
 - c. Motion passes unanimously
3. Approval of May 2 Minutes
 - a. Alisa moved to approve Minutes. Sharon seconded.
 - b. Motion passes unanimously
4. Reflection Activity
 - a. Conducted throughout the meeting. Writing prompt: "What I appreciate about you this year is..."
5. Youth Division Update
 - a. Matt gave the update
 - i. Close to the end of the year
 - ii. Many new activities added this year
 1. Nature center field trip
 - iii. Open house in August
 - iv. 5 staff members have committed to coming back next year - very happy about this.
 1. Staff has bonded over the course of the year.
6. Issues Committee Update
 - a. Kindness Rock Garden
 - i. Tammy gave the update
 - ii. Rock painting at the farmer's market didn't have a huge turnout. Weather wasn't great. .
 - b. Mental Wellness Fair
 - i. Rod gave the update
 1. One vender no showed
 2. Decent traffic throughout the day.
 3. Vendors have been asking if the next event is being planned.

- c. Tammy mentioned we may combine the rock painting and mental wellness fair events next year
- d. Volunteer recognition event
 - i. Marla and Matt gave the update
 - 1. Some changes have been advised as city council meetings are going very long
 - 2. There will be a small reception in the community room ahead of the city council meeting and then awards given at the meeting
 - 3. There was a discussion about the administration of the event and how much time there will be to give time
- e. Commission budget
 - i. There is an estimated surplus of \$1,000 that has not been spent
 - ii. There was an open discussion about other ideas to spend the money
 - 1. Tammy suggested buying a large chess set for one of the city parks. Cost is estimated at \$500
 - 2. Library of Things is also a possibility for the library. Physical items (i.e. microscopes or telescopes) that people can check out for use.
 - 3. Jenny gave some commentary about items that would be useful for the Library of Things
 - 4. Marla said she doesn't like the idea of spending money for the library since the library already gets money from the city and the chess set might not be a great idea since the items could be stolen or used for other unintended purposes. She likes the idea of having a more direct impact on the youth and families in the city.
 - iii. Vote to allocate the rest of the budget to buying specific items and marketing materials that support the Career Fair, Mental Wellness Fair, and Kindness Rock Garden initiatives
 - 1. Alisa moved. Rod seconded
 - 2. Vote passed unanimously
- f. Survey of the community
 - i. Rod gave the update
 - ii. Goal to survey the community's concerns to help us set the agenda for the 2024-2025 commission

7. New Business

- a. Alisa
 - i. New restaurant downtown. Blueberry Brunch
- b. Sharon
 - i. Updated list of commission members is coming with a list of city employees that help the commission
- c. Doug
 - i. Cipriano Classic walk/run is coming up. Participants and volunteers needed.
- d. Marla:
 - i. Volunteer recognition on Monday. All commission members welcome to attend
- e. Rod
 - i. Juneteenth coming up. Major celebration at Catalpa Oaks in Southfield
- f. Bria
 - i. Kids had daycare prom last week

- g. Tanya
 - i. Daughter turning 13!
- h. Jenny
 - i. Summer reading has started
 - ii. Very busy summer coming for the Library
- i. Kimberly
 - i. Last day of school tomorrow
- j. Tammy
 - i. College tours this summer
- 8. Public Comments
 - a. None
- 9. Adjournment
 - a. Moved by Rod. Seconded by Sharon
 - b. Motion approved unanimously
 - c. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm