

MINUTES
FARMINGTON/FARMINGTON HILLS
COMMISSION ON CHILDREN, YOUTH and FAMILIES
September 1, 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 6:01 p.m.

Members Present: Tammy Luty, Bette Rose, Sharon Snodgrass, Jordan Scrimger, Adam Whitfield, Brian Spitsbergen, Roderick Wallace, Marie Sarnacki

Members Absent: Ed Cherkinsky,

Other: Lauren Janowicz, Jeff King, Marla Parker, Jeannie Willard, Douglas Edwards, Brittny Fuller

- 2) Approval of Agenda

Marla Parker approved the agenda, and all approved.

- 3) Approval of June 2, 2022 Minutes

Roderick Wallace approved the minutes, and all approved.

- 4) Youth Division Update

Lauren updated that there is no longer a youth division, they are now the after-school youth program. Future agendas will be updated with the new title. After the June meeting the city was able to work with FPS and while FPS can not provide bus drivers for the after-school program they were able to provide the busses. The city will be hiring bus drivers and getting them trained with the licenses to transport the students from all the middle schools Power, East, Warner and Farmington STEAM Academy. The program started on August 30th, and kids are having fun at The Hawk. They have a maximum of 500 kids between the ages of 11 through 14 that can participate, and currently have about 65 students. They are still looking to hire additional staff for the program. They will be marketing the program through the school principals. Students can choose the activities they want to participate in gym, swimming, outdoor fields, or social room tutoring. They may possibly have guest speakers in the future.

The funding that the commission gave in June was used to conduct the staff training in August. Going forward the staff that attended the training will be used to train new or additional employees.

- 5) Issues Committee Update

Marie gave an update on the wait until 8th program. She met with Dr. Delgado to discuss the program and he gave her some principals at the elementary level to contact to discuss the program. She will be reaching out to them to discuss the program and provide an update next month.

Tammy gave an update on the Kindness Garden Project. Funding was used to purchase the rocks and painting supplies from the June money allotted to the program. She was able to secure a partnership with the Farmington Farmers Market and the commission will have a booth on September 3 where we can allow community members to paint a rock that will be added to the garden. Over the summer the Farmington Community Library teen programs were having participates paint rocks that will also be used to put in the garden. Tammy met with the Arts Commission in June and was able to find a member of that commission that would help with the design of the garden. The design was shared with members of the commission via email before the meeting. The library has asked us to hold a booth at their event in September. We still have some supplies to buy like the garden sign, edging rocks, and other small supplies for painting event at the booths. The commission approved an additional \$500 for this project. We are working on a dedication date with the city where we can dedicate the garden at Heritage Park. Once we have the date a flyer will be created and shared, and politicians will be invited to the event.

6) Communications Update

Sharon discussed that she had reviewed our bylaws and had a couple of suggestions on ways to improve communications. She mentioned that an alternative member can step in and vote if a member is not present to vote at the meeting.

7) Volunteer Recognition Program

Marla gave an update on the volunteer program. We had discussed last year of doing it in October but given our first meeting is September, the timeframe will need a quick turnaround if we are to still celebrate the volunteers in October. We determined that we would move the event back to the spring as April is National Volunteer Month. This will allow the commission more time to prepare and have a successful volunteer event. Money will be needed for this event to buy snacks and plaques. Looking at a possible awards date of May 16th.

8) New Business and Announcements

Jordan Scrimger – Asked if we needed to approve money for the Kindness Garden expenses. We discussed how we needed to handle the process of spending money going forward with approval of a budget amount. Jordan motioned to approve no more than \$500 for the Kindness Garden and Marie seconded it. Motion carried.

Marla Parker – Shared the information on the Foundation for Youth and Families fundraiser event on September 30th. The foundation gives many grants to community groups that benefit youth and families. A fun evening is planned, and tickets are currently available for purchase.

Adam Whitfield – Discussed that the Novi Rotary summer feeding/eat program served 150 students a day in the Novi Schools. They are looking for a coordinator to run this program in Novi next summer. The program is very important for students that need the summer meals.

Jeanne Willard – Let everyone know about the Library Event on September 18th. This is an event for all community members to come see all that the library has to offer the community. She also shared information on author visits and programs that are being planned in the fall. Make sure to check the library website or check out one of their brochures with information on programs. For the library summer reading program, they had 2,068 children participate, 354 teens participated, 931 adults participated for a total of 3353. They gave away over 1,700 books to kids and teens.

Jeff King – The police department just completed a one-day training program with all FPS staff on ALICE. The program was done before school started so all staff was able to participate. They also participated in the Kroger Zero Hunger fill a squad car and filled 8 cars with food. The city-wide open house is October 8th so save the date.

Brittney Fuller – Shared a few upcoming programs that the Y will be hosting including September 15th senior day and September 19th youth and government programs.

9) Public Comments

None

10) Adjournment

7:15 pm.

Roderick Wallace motioned to adjourn, and Marie Sarnacki seconded, all in favor.

All future meetings will start at 6 p.m. in the Community Room, Farmington Hills City Hall,

October 6, 2022
February 2, 2023
May 4, 2023

November 3, 2022
March 2, 2023
June 1, 2023

January 5, 2023
April 6, 2023