



Commission on Youth Issues

6801 Delmar Boulevard, University City, Missouri 63130, Phone: (314) 862-6767

Meeting Minutes – University City Commission on Youth Issues

May 05, 2014

Location: Heman Park Community Center

Attendees Present: Bria Banks, Beth Gooch, Malcolm Hill, Deborah Morley, Ruth Selipsky, Caryn St. Clair, Mayor Shelley Welsch (Council Liaison) and Courtney Gregory (Staff Liaison)

Absent: R. Dylan Allen, Lilian Getachew, Katerina Koenigs, Sloan Marion, Nikki Beverly

Excused: Diane Davenport, Bijal Desai-Ramirez, Malik Johnson, Michael McMahon, Alice Mutrux

Public Attendance: Garrie Burr, Lafayette Gatewood, Kevin Taylor

Call to Order

Mayor Welsch called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Mrs. St. Clair and seconded by Ms. Selipsky. That motion was approved.

Approval of Minutes

After the approval of the minutes, Mrs. Gooch Requested that the minutes be revised and considered at a future meeting.

Mayor Welsch started the discussion with the first item of new business. The committee decided to postpone the leadership roles discussion until more members are present.

Mayor Welsch moved to the next item of new business. Prior to this meeting, Mayor Welsch invited all commission members to submit their personal thoughts on where the commission should focus its attention in the coming months. Only three members replied with specific ideas to base today's discussion. One member replied that the Commission should focus on short term and easily accomplished goals that will be workable as new members arrive. Mrs. Gooch proposed that volunteering with Make a Difference Day (October 25th) allows for a small quick success.

Ms. Selipsky proposed hosting a local teen event this summer with a prospective date of July 26, 2014. Ms. Morley, Ms. Banks and Ms. Selipsky formed a subcommittee for this event. It was suggested that the subcommittee set a meeting to speak with City Manager Lehman Walker. Ideas on how to reach out and market this event and the committee to U City teens were discussed. Mayor Welsch suggested communicating subcommittee meeting dates and times with Courtney Gregory so the meetings can be properly posted. The Commission has a budget of approximately \$7500.00. The subcommittee will discuss working with the chamber of commerce for donations of food and drink for the event. It was mentioned that the school district will assist with printing banners.

Another short term goal suggested for the commission was making sure that the teens are aware of volunteer work and service opportunities within University City. The commission members decided that this topic should be discussed in June. Mrs. Gooch suggests that we invite Stefani Weeden-Smith to attend the June meeting to discuss how the commission will be involved with MADD and how we should proceed. We should explore if it should be teen focused or “teen led project” to build a sense of community. Mrs. Gooch revisited the idea of doing a fun run. The fun run can be coordinated with MADD or Fair U City. The high school will be organizing a 3k and 5k early September as part of Fair U City.

Committee members discussed finding a mechanism to reach out to the community and get input from teens that have not been affected by this effort.

Some mechanisms suggested:

- Writing an article for ROARS
- Inclusion in the Rec Guide this Fall
- A table at Fair U City
- Reaching out to neighbors
- Notices in the Catholic bulletins

Mrs. St Clair will get information and notify the committee of the deadline for the surveys. Mrs. St. Clair will also do an announcement for the bulletins in the local Catholic parishes.

Long Term Goals: The committee decided to delay further discussion on the Teen Center. The committee will perform research locally to attain this goal. Mayor Welsch suggests that the members visit other youth commissions. Mrs. St Clair will get Councilman Dwayne James contact information and invite him to a commission meeting.

Ms. Morley suggested the commission meet for an intense work session to team build and figure out where to go with the leadership of the group. Ms. Gregory will check the availability of the HPCC and Ms. Morley will send out a Doodle Survey to everyone to find a date that will work. This meeting will be effective if all members are present.

Citizen Participation:

Kevin Taylor
722 Canton Avenue

Mr. Taylor shared his notes from the meeting and posed questions to the commission

1. The Commission should think about structure as opposed to bylaws
2. How do you define success and accomplishments?
3. How does this commission interact with other commissions such as the Park Commission, Arts & Letters Etc. Be cognizant of others
4. What is the School District’s role in this commission?
 - Mr. Hill noted that he drives to provide input and assist teens in decision making
5. It is best to involve the teens in developing the structure and organizing the commission
 - Ms. Morley is working towards the big picture and hopes to familiarize the youth with the city through the planned orientation session

Garrie Burr
750 Kingsland Avenue

Mr. Burr spoke about University City Movies in the Parks. Mr. Burr would like to get the youth to get involved with the events and get the word out to increase attendance at Millar Park. Mr. Burr would like for the University City Youth to create a pre-movie event for Despicable Me or Life of Pi. Mr. Burr would like for members of the Arts & Letters Commission to attend the next meeting in June.

All films will be shown at Millar Park — North & South and Canton Roads about ½ hour after dusk

“Despicable Me 2” – Saturday, June 14

“Life of Pi” – Saturday, July 12

“42” – Saturday, August 9

Lafayette Gatewood
2943 Arlmont
Bel Nor, MO 63121

Mr. Gatewood introduced himself as the business and marketing teacher at University City High School. Mr. Gatewood runs the program at the high school where qualified juniors and seniors are allowed to work for credits. Mr. Gatewood has attended the meeting because of his interest in creating volunteer and work opportunities for Teens.

Actions / Follow-Up Items:

HPCC June Schedule to be checked by Ms. Gregory

Subcommittee for teen event to meet at a time TBA. Will advise Ms. Gregory.

Ms. Morley-Smith to send out Doodle survey for date for workshop

Invite Ms. Weeden-Smith to the June meeting

Mrs. St Clair – Contact Dwayne James & do notice for local Catholic bulletins

Ms. Gregory to F/U with track coaches at UCHS about fun run with Fair U City

Meeting adjourned at 7:21p.m. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. Morley and seconded by Mr. Hill.

NEXT MEETING

Monday June 2, 2014 – 6:00 p.m.

Heman Park Community Center