

MINUTES OF THE YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD
CITY OF PEORIA, ARIZONA
DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES BUILDING
SEPTEMBER 10, 2019

A **Regular Meeting** of the Youth Advisory Board of the City of Peoria, Arizona was convened at 9875 N. 85TH Avenue in open and public session at 6:35 p.m.

Members Present: Leah Gilbertson, Peter Bartos, Nikhila Basana, Ravi Bhakta, Marin Clark, Tyrin Clay, Brighton Greathouse, Cassidy Gatrost, Caelin Johnson, Shaan Patel, Caillet Popelier, Madison Presmyk, Ritika Ravindran, Saanvi Tiwary, Dominique Van Winkle, Addison Vinck

Members Absent: Madelyn Stuckey-excused, Liam Beltram-unexcused, Juliette Garcia-excused, Savana Rodriguez, unexcused

Municipal Officials Present: Erik Strunk-Deputy City Manager, Jon Edwards-Councilman, Ted Mariscal-Assistant City Attorney, Chris Hallett-Neighborhood & Human Services Director, John Sefton-Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities Director, Brian Carrico-Recreation Superintendent and Selena Ferreira-Administrative Assistant

Audience: 0

Presentation: None

Note: The order in which the items appear in the minutes is not necessarily the order in which they were discussed at the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA: All items listed with a "C" are considered to be routine by the Youth Advisory Board and were enacted by one motion.

MINUTES:

1C Discussion and possible action to approve/excuse members absent from the August 20, 2019 regular meeting.

2C Discussion and possible action to approve the minutes of August 20, 2019

A motion was made by Marin Clark to approve the consent agenda; the motion was seconded by Brighton Greathouse and the motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. **Goals**

Brian displayed data compiled from the Youth Retreat surveys. This gave a quick overview of the top four goals most of the YAB members asked for. Board reviewed it. Brighton asked about the Youth Master Plan and how long it has been in place. Brian answered for seven years. No action taken.

NEW BUSINESS:

2. **Icebreaker**

Leah asked the board to break into three groups to play Picnic. Each person in the group had to say their name and what item they were bringing to the picnic. If you said the wrong item, you were passed over and the game continued until the last person understood what items to bring. The correct items were those that began with the letter of your first name. This helped the board with communication and their listening. No action taken.

3. **Councilman Edwards to Address Youth Engagement**

Councilman Jon Edwards spoke to the members of the board about expectations and interaction amongst peers. He encouraged the board to speak with their friends and fellow students to see what teens really want and what is important to them. Then he asked that the board report to City Council with their findings. He posed questions like “how do you want your City shaped” and “do you reach out to your student councils”. Councilman Edwards reminded the board that they have an important voice and he would like to hear more from them. No action taken.

4. **Community Garden**

One way the YAB can be involved is to sponsor a box that someone/some people would have to check once a week. They could assign a person a week to drive by and check on their box. Brighton asked how long the boxes had been there. Tryin asked about volunteers. Shaan wanted a list of other locations. Members who volunteered to help maintain a box were Saanvi, Nikhila and Shaan. The Community Garden Kickoff Day will be Saturday, September 14, 2019 at 8am. They need help with cleaning, turning soil for the new year and getting it ready for planting. Members who volunteered to help with the Kickoff were Cassidy, Madison P., Caelin, Nikhila, Tryrin, Brighton and Saanvi. In October, the Harvest Social will take place. A date is still to be determined but it could land on the 12th or 19th. Help with neighborhood cleanup as well as clean up around the Community Center is needed. No action taken.

5. **Review of Bylaws**

Copies of the bylaws were distributed for review and discussion. Assistant City Attorney, Ted Mariscal spoke briefly on outdated ordinances and the reasoning behind having bylaws. The board wants to change Article III, #4 from six unexcused absences

to three, replace (in total) to (in 12 months), add 3 excused absences in the 12 month period and possibly add attendance policy to committees too. Other changes included Article VI, #1 and to remove this rule and strike it from the bylaws and in #2 they want to change three committees to two by removing Youth Government Day (or incorporating it into the Community Service Committee). Saanvi asked about appointing different positions such as Social Media, Treasurer and Secretary. Brighton asked if there was a need for a treasurer. Ritika asked what a secretary would do. Shaan asked to uniform verbiage throughout (chairperson vs. chairman). All the suggestions will be compiled and presented at the October meeting for further review and possible action. No action taken.

6. **Mental Health Awareness**

Nikhila has a contact with Youth Mental Health First Aid. Caillet said there is a need for counselors at schools that can help in this capacity. Councilman Edwards suggested they call their local Police Station to find out who their SRO's are at their schools and speak to them. Deputy City Manager Erik Strunk mentioned the resources the City has and how they could provide the board with options. No action taken.

7. **Survey Results**

Brian displayed data compiled from the eighteen surveys that were returned. The top four goals most of the YAB members asked for were: increasing civic engagement, increasing leadership opportunities, review of the youth master plan and offering financial guidance. No action taken.

8. **Special Events**

Brian currently working on a calendar that will encompass special events, teen specific events, events happening locally, etc. Caillet would like an actual list. It was suggested to use Google Doc's for tracking. No action taken.

9. **Future Agenda Items**

Tyrin wants to bring back issues from her school/peers. Madison P. suggested using the school announcements to advertise for feedback. Shaan thought having an email address for teens to send their suggestions, concerns, etc. Councilman Edwards advised the board to work with their school's media. No action taken.

CALL TO PUBLIC (NON-AGENDA ITEM): N/A

Reports from Staff: Selena announced to the board that they will receive new shirts soon and asked for sizes.

Reports from Youth Council Liaisons: Brighton reported the general plan updates included youth perspective. Maddie S., Ritika and Brighton all presented the Year in Review power point to the City Council in August.

Reports from Board: Brighton-visited the Moving Wall Veterans Memorial at Rio Vista Park. Addison-in FCA at Sunrise High School. Marin-Cross Country team going to Disneyland. Tyrin-got a haircut. Nikhila-October performance with her dance academy. Madison P.-joined a few clubs and getting a dog soon. Caelin-taught 3rd grade religious class at church. Cassidy-1st place in golf and going to see the movie IT. Caillet-quartet is official. Peter-in DECA and went to League of Cities Conference. Dom-in HOSA and was part of the distribution of school newspaper. Ravi-visited Prescott for the first time. Shaan-in DECA. Leah-was accepted to Central College in Iowa.

ADJOURNMENT: Being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was duly adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Leah Gilbertson, Chair

Selena Ferreira, Administrative Assistant