

Youth Advisory Committee Meeting
Monday, April 8th, 2019
5:30 p.m. at Springhill Lake Recreation Center

Present: Ms. Findley Holland (Vice Chair), Mrs. Alison Longworth(Liaison),Mr. Malik Gupta, Mr. Arsalan Siddiqui (Chair)

Absent: Ms. Honora Hammett (Secretary)

Guests: Mrs. Kyla Hanington,Mr. Zion Fernandez, Mr. Xavier Heron, Chief Richard Bowers

Findley called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Old Business

1. Minutes: The February minutes were approved unanimously without change.
2. Crime Prevention:
 - a. Chief Bowers spoke on how the youth in our community could aid in crime prevention. He believes getting youth involved with programs at the recreation center, at school or any other environment in which they could utilize their time in a productive manner would help prevent crime because he stated that boredom is one of the main factors in youth crime.
 - b. YAC asked the Chief about topics such as the missing persons policy in Greenbelt, the services YAC could provide in fighting crime and events that could be held to educate the youth. The police department has a "Spring Fling" (date TBD) and the Chief agreed to host another school forum.
3. Youth Advisory encouragement letters to neighboring municipalities: The next step is to print the letters because no changes needed to be made. Mr. Siddiqui suggested YAC have the NLC pamphlet on how to start a youth council accompany the letter. Mrs. Longworth added on that YAC should go to the Takoma Park youth council meeting later this month.
4. Meet & Greet recap:
 - a. The consensus is that the meet & greet at the pool worked well with several families coming in.
 - b. The tentative date for the next meet & greet is June 28th from 6-8 p.m. at Buddy Attick Park. In theory the gathering would be in party form with each YAC member handling one aspect of it. Mrs. Hanington also suggested we do our event during peak hours at the recreation center.
 - c. YAC wants to focus on having a Youth Summit which would include other municipalities and be sponsored by the county through Joy Russell. This may even lead to a county wide youth council.

New Business

1. Advisory Committee Liaison Reports: Mr. Siddiqui recounted how the topic of discussion at the ACE meeting was the teacher awards ceremony.
2. November Elections: This will be the first time that youth 16 and over will be able to vote since YAC fought for the lowering of the voting age. YAC will hold another voter registration event and advertise it in ERHS' newspaper.

3. NLC CCC Reports: YAC summarized their experiences of the the Conference and Mrs. Longworth has requested that each member submit a summary of their experience to her for submission to the City Council.
4. Committee Initiated Discussion:
 - a. Ms. Holland went to the human trafficking workshop where different aspects of trafficking and victimization were discussed. Renee Battle- Brooks will try to attend the May meeting.
 - b. Mr. Gupta discussed the details of the National Youth Council Network created by Emma Smith.
 - c. Mr. Siddiqui present Maryland tax information that he received during his time at the capital.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Malik Gupta