

AGENDA

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance
2. Agenda Review
This is the time to reorder and/or remove items from the agenda by consensus of the Youth Council. Any individual member who will be abstaining from a discussion item should announce his/her intentions at this time.
3. Approval of Minutes
4. Correspondence
5. Public Statements/Comments
This is the time allotted for statements or comments on matters within the subject matter and jurisdiction of the Youth Council. Statements and comments are limited to no more than five (5) minutes per speaker.
6. Informational Presentation
Ventura County Foster Parent Association
7. Continued Business
Debrief of 2014 Youth Summit
8. New Business
Presentation of Donations Collected at the 2014 Youth Summit to the Ventura County Foster Parent Association
9. Representative Reports
Youth Council Reports and Comments
This is the time for Youth Council members' statements or comments on matters within the subject matter and jurisdiction of the Youth Council or to request a future agenda item. This is also the time to make any announcements related to community events and other items of interest.
10. Coordinator's Report
11. Adjournment: Tuesday, April 1, 2014, 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., City Hall Community Room.

/s/ _____
Rob Bruce
Deputy Director/Community Programs & Facilities

If any interested individual has a disability that may require accommodation to participate in this meeting, please contact the Youth Council Coordinator at (805) 583-6766. Upon advance notification, reasonable arrangements will be made to provide accessibility to the meeting.



DRAFT MINUTES

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Youth Council Chair Cory Edwards called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and Acting Youth Council Secretary Veronica Martinez verified that a quorum was present.

| Selection Districts | | Members-At-Large | | | |
|--|------------------------|------------------|------------------|--|-----------------|
| V | Apollo High School | A | Amanat Bal | E | Nicole Waggoner |
| P | Emily Schmitt-RHS | P | Nicholas Becerra | Alternates | |
| P | Nick Steinwender-RHS | P | Cory Edwards | E | Katie Johnson |
| P | Robert Hidalgo-SSHS | P | Hannah Hernandez | V | Vacant |
| P | Veronica Martinez-SSHS | P | Jeffrey Ho | V | Vacant |
| P | Garrett Gilson-SVHS | P | Tyler Johnson | | |
| P | Kailey Printz-SVHS | P | Nicolas Judge | P = Present E = Excused A = Absent V = Vacant | |
| P | Zalma Quezada-HMS | P | Kellie McManamon | | |
| P | Connor Mullen-SMS | P | Leah Nohrenberg | | |
| P | Janelle Effarah-VVMS | P | Nicolas Mintzer | | |
| *Arrived after approval of the minutes | | | | | |

Staff: Kristin Tignac, Youth Council Coordinator.

Guest: Timothy Ho and Teddy Tang.

2. Agenda Review

The agenda was approved as presented.

3. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the February 18, 2014, minutes as written was made by Zalma Quezada and seconded by Tyler Johnson. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Correspondence

Ms. Tignac reported that correspondence was received from Sommer Barwick, Director of Community Services, regarding the Community Services Department recent purchase of 57 recycling receptacles for the Simi Valley Unified School District for placement at elementary schools throughout the City. Funds for the purchase were made possible through the CalRecycle's City-County Payment program. She stated that this collaboration furthers objectives within the City's Green Community Action Plan and addresses concerns discussed by the Youth Council regarding the need to increase recycling opportunities throughout the community.

Ms. Tignac reported that correspondence was received from the 2014 Leaders in Life Youth Conference Planning Committee confirming the Simi Valley Youth Council's participation as a workshop presenter. The following Youth Council members had volunteered to present: Nicholas Becerra, Nicolas Judge, Veronica Martinez, Nick Steinwender and Nicole Waggoner.

5. Public Statements/Comments

No public statements or comments were made.

6. Continued Business

7. New Business

a. Debrief of 2014 Youth Summit

Ms. Tignac recognized and praised all Youth Council members for the amazing job they did as small group facilitators, as well as their hard work in organizing, setting up and breaking down the event.

Ms. Tignac reported that per the Youth Summit participant evaluations, 100% of the participants felt that the Youth Summit was meaningful to them, which was a strong statement towards the value of the event. Also, all non-graduating participants stated that they were planning on attending the Summit again next year. Additional feedback from participants would be shared during the next Youth Council meeting on March 18, 2014.

All Youth Council members were asked to turn in a Youth Summit luncheon recap to Ms. Tignac. A partial list of recap summaries received to date was distributed. The following small group ideas and solutions were developed by each group:

Bullying – The following ideas were discussed during the breakout sessions and at lunch:

- Promoting a cyber-bullying prevention and awareness campaign;
- Research hosting a Cyber Bullying forum;
- Encourage activities that reduce out casting, such as joining a group/club or starting a group/club which would promote positive social interactions;

Concerns Related to Schools - The following ideas were discussed during the breakout sessions and at lunch:

- Encourage respect towards students by Yard Supervisors in particular at Royal High School;
- Notify Simi Valley Unified School District Administration and teachers of concerns brought up during the Youth Summit;
- Increase random drug searches on middle and high school campuses;
- Request more life skills classes, such as resume writing, balancing a checkbook and information on preparing for large purchases that require financing.

Underage Drinking and Drug Use – The following ideas were discussed during the breakout sessions and at lunch:

- Increase awareness of dangers of hookah pens, prescription pills, e-cigarettes, alcohol, and illegal substances;

- Promote outreach, heroin prevention and other programs that help those with addiction;
- Promote safe ways for friends to communicate concerns with a person's alcohol/drug use;
- Increase teen activities promoting safe alternatives to alcohol and drug use;
- Request additional Reality Party for Parents by Straight Up Ventura County to educate parents;
- Promote resource hotlines to help those with addiction and their loved ones, such as putting the Teen Crisis Resource Numbers on school identification cards;
- Encourage on-campus clubs that have random drug tests;
- Increase school assemblies with an alcohol and drug prevention message, incorporating peer speakers.

Teen Activities A – The following ideas were discussed during the breakout sessions and at lunch:

- Suggestions for teen activities included; miniature golf, a beach bus, water park, go-cart racing, more teen dances, color run, high school teen dance at the Boys and Girls Club of Simi Valley, a "clean up" day, and dodge ball;
- Encourage a community dance for all high schools; such as after a sports event or an all school prom;
- Promote Career Education Center Programs, previously known as ROP, and an increase in career connections through programs by schools and businesses;
- Recommend having a teen center at the Simi Valley Town Center with combined involvement of Kiwanis Key Clubs and Rotary Interact Clubs;
- Encourage providing transportation for Santa Susana High School students for participation in sports at local high schools;
- Encourage more teen-friendly restaurants and businesses to open in Simi Valley that would also provide more jobs for youth, such as: Chick-Fil-A, Shave It, Claim Jumpers, Bob's Big Boy, Texas Road House, Sonic, BJ's, Bucca, Denny's, drive-in movie theater, Sky High, billiards, and In-N-Out on the west end of Simi Valley;
- Promote hiring teens to increase teen employment, as well as promote volunteer opportunities;
- Request additional life skills class, such as CPR/first aid, basic car maintenance/changing a flat tire, college prep and application completion, and cooking.

Crime – The following ideas were discussed during the breakout sessions and at lunch:

- Reduce cyber bullying and drug use by promoting prevention awareness;
- Request increased random school drug searches by police K9's;
- Promote crime prevention awareness, such as keeping valuables locked up and safe;
- Reduce school fights by promoting kindness and respect towards each other.

Homelessness - The following ideas were discussed during the breakout sessions and at lunch:

- Encourage a forum or platform for public awareness, such as local newspaper series;
- Increase motivational support groups for those facing homelessness;
- Increase programs for homeless youth, including employment and educational opportunities;
- Increase homelessness awareness in schools, such as school assemblies featuring former homeless people or recovering drug addicts.

Environmental Concerns - The following ideas were discussed during the breakout sessions and at lunch:

- Increase public awareness through environmental forums;
- Reduce plastic bag use. Recommend grocery stores charge 10 cents per paper bag and encourage use of reusable bags;
- Increase use of recyclable paper and biodegradable supplies in schools;
- Encourage more online school assignments;
- Promote specific days to help the environment, such as Walk to School Wednesdays or communitywide clean up days;
- Increase energy conservation;
- Promote using environmentally friendly transportation - City Transit, bike or walk, and carpool;
- Recognize businesses that help the environment.

Ms. Tignac reminded the Youth Council that they are expected to debrief the City Council on issues and concerns related to youth that were addressed at the 2014 Youth Summit. As a tool to assist with finalizing the debrief, a handout was distributed listing each group topic, including

issues and solutions discussed. Each group was asked to prioritize their top three issues and solutions.

Youth Council members then discussed and selected their top issues of concern. After a brief discussion, Nicolas Mintzer made a motion to approve the following issues and proposed solutions to be presented to the City Council:

1. Group Topic: Bullying
Issue: Cyber Bullying
Solution: Increasing awareness and education of cyber bullying, including ways to prevent by hosting a Cyber Bullying Forum.
2. Group Topic: Underage Drinking and Drug Use
Issue: Peers afraid to report underage drinking and drug use
Solution: Increase awareness of signs to look for and Good Samaritan laws.
3. Group Topic: Concerns Related To Schools
Issue: Lack of knowledge of basic life skills
Solution: Increase classes teaching basic life skills, such as cooking, changing a flat tire, and large purchase financing.
4. Group Topic: Environmental Concerns
Issue: Location of solar panels on school campuses
Solution: Recommend placing on top of car ports and above eating areas to serve as a dual purpose.
5. Group Topic: Underage Drinking and Drug Abuse
Issue: Impacts of addiction on the community
Solution: Increase underage drinking and drug use prevention awareness by recommending using local speakers to discuss real life consequences, such as, affected family members of addicts, recovering addict to talk about their personal experiences, or coordinate school-wide assemblies with motivational speakers like Mad Dog.
6. Group Topic: Concerns Related to Schools
Issue: Lack of respect given to students by Yard Supervisors at a specific school
Solution: Encourage respect and kindness offered to all on campus by staff and students.
7. Group Topic: Teen Activities

Issue: Lack of activities for multiple school participation

Solution: Enhance community interaction through an increased number of city-wide all school events, such as an all school dance.

8. Group Topic: Crime, Concerns Related to Schools and Underage
Drinking and Drug Use

Issue: Alcohol and Drug use on school campuses

Solution: Reduce alcohol and drug use on school campuses by increasing frequency of random drug searches conducted on school campuses.

Veronica Martinez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Volunteer Opportunity, Every Fifteen Minutes Program

Ms. Tignac gave a brief overview of the Every Fifteen Minutes Program and stated that the Every Fifteen Minutes program planning committee had requested Youth Council assistance in distributing flyers notifying residences and businesses located near the mock "crash site" scheduled on April 8, 2014. The following Youth Council members volunteered to distribute flyers the weekend prior to the event: Veronica Martinez, Kellie McManamon, Zalma Quezada, Emily Schmitt, Nick Steinwender, and Nicole Waggoner.

8. Representative Reports

Youth Council Reports and Comments

Veronica Martinez reported that she had presented the Youth Council Comments to the Simi Valley City Council on March 3, 2014. She stated that the presentation included a brief recap of the 2014 Youth Summit.

9. Coordinator's Report

Ms. Tignac reminded Youth Council members that the Community Volunteer of the Year nomination forms were due no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 7, 2014. Submit an online nomination form at www.simivalley.org/Volunteer or contact Rob Bruce, Deputy Director/Community Programs and Facilities at (805) 583-6874.

10. Adjournment: Wednesday, March 18, 2014, 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., City Hall Community Room.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:18 p.m.