

Youth Advisory Committee

Monday, April 10, 2017

5:30 pm at Springhill Lake Recreation Center – Computer Room

Present: Ema Smith (Chair), Jeremy Tuthill (Vice Chair), and Julia Sharapi

Absent: Honora Hammett (Secretary), Selim Boukabara, and Hunter Whaples

Staff: Alison Longworth, Liaison

Guests: Dea Zugby, Katie Pugliese, and Rick Ransom

Ema Smith called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm.

Old Business

- 1. February Minutes:** Approved.
- 2. Opioid Public Service Announcement:** Alison Longworth will look into getting the PSA played at the Greenbelt Theatre and on the Greenbelt television station.
- 3. Youth Forum:** Alison Longworth will check with Springhill Lake staff about a free Saturday in September for the forum. Ema Smith will develop a poster to spread awareness on the event. More specifics will be decided at a later date.
- 4. Mandan Basketball Hoop Report:** Submitted.
- 5. YAC Liaison Reports:**

Ema Smith – Advisory Board on Education: ACE discussed schools under the charter as they need to clarify specifics. The ACE education awards went well. They received all student nominations from schools on time. They wish to have the clubs they sponsor at various schools to meet more frequently.

Honora Hammett – Community Relations Advisory Board: A presentation on lowering the voting age was presented on 3/21 and it went well.

- 6. Web addition to greenbeltmd.gov:** Present members agree “greenbeltmd.gov/yac” is a good url. Ema Smith suggests the page should include member profiles, donation link, submission of topics/requests for YAC to discuss, calendar of YAC events, and a YAC member application.

New Business

- 1. Police Youth Forum:** This forum would serve to better the communication between the Greenbelt police and the Greenbelt youth. CRAB would like to hold the event at Eleanor Roosevelt High School. Rick Ransom has contacted Principal McNeill, who has delegated the forum details to Mr. Secker. Secker has provided some suggestions for how the event should be held. Julia Sharapi will clarify what Secker means by “workshop model.” Ema Smith agrees with his suggestion to offer it as an opportunity for service hours. Ema Smith additionally suggested the possibility of free food. Publicity would come from an addition to the morning announcements and flyers. Julia Sharapi noted that having too much of a police presence may be discouraging to youth to speak their minds

fully. She advises anonymous tip box, where people could submit their thoughts. Everyone agreed that the best approach would be to have 1 or 2 police present, so that there could be a question and answer session. After discussion, it was concluded early September would be the best time to hold this forum, as it is too late in the school year to be sufficiently effective.

2. **Shirts:** Alison Longworth distributed shirts to present YAC members.
3. **NLC Report:** Ema Smith handed out her trip report. She wants to write a letter to other local governments encouraging them to have youth committees and will present a draft of this letter at the next meeting. She also requested to start an official YAC twitter. Jeremy Tuthill will draft a letter to Council on why this would be good and a plan to run it. NLC discussion will continue at next meeting.

All other draft agenda topics will be pushed to the next YAC meeting.

Ema Smith adjourned the meeting at 6:33 pm.