

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR YOUTH COMMISSION MEETING**  
**TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
**110 E. MAIN ST.**  
**MINUTES OF JANUARY 8, 2008**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Jordan Kahler called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

Commissioners Present: Michelle Aranovsky, Sydney Burns, Peter Hadar, Kelsey Hall, Killian Jackson, Jordan Kahler, Liz Mellema, Nicky Robinson, Amy Zhang

Commissioners Absent: Sydney Burns, Olivia Colliver, Hirsh Goswamy, Zach Hershberger, Brandy Pech, Stanford Stickney, Bronwyn Stone

Alternates Present: Cheryl Chapman, Megan Lambert

Alternates Absent: Leslie Zankich, Peter Zou

Staff: Chief Scott Seaman  
Capt. Alana Forrest  
Sgt. Randy Rimple  
Mike Loya, LGS Rec. Dept./A Place for Teens  
Irene Shrier, Recording Secretary

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2008 meeting. **Passed (8-0)**

**VERBAL COMMUNICATION**

- Ray Davis spoke about the Clerk's Office role regarding Measure D.
- Gil Decker commended the Youth Commission for their involvement in civic affairs. He gave a factual report on how the skate park planning has progress since 2004. He is not in favor of Measure D and said we are fiscally sound today because we have managed our money well thus far.
- Steve Leonardis gave a break down of funding for the skate park and is in favor of Measure D. He did not feel that the skate park is a special interest group and that it is a good outlet for kids in the community.
- Pamela Murphy encouraged a no vote on Measure D. She is concerned about the cost of maintenance for the life of the skate park.
- Tim Murphy was not in favor of the skate park. He was concerned with the safety issues of the park because of the adjacent hill, parking concerns which could

impact business in town, the noise level for residential neighbors, and limited number of residents who would use it.

## **ITEMS OF DISCUSSION**

### **Town Manager Greg Larson**

Mr. Larson introduced himself to the commission. He welcomed them to the democratic process and encouraged them to continue to be involved in government. He spoke of his experience as a campaign manager and his involvement in government. Mr. Larson made himself available to anyone wanting to shadow him or who has an interest in public service as a career. His goals are to learn the organization and the community and to be effective in fulfilling his duties as a City Manager.

### **Discussion Regarding Measure D as it Relates to the Youth Commission**

Chief Seaman shared the guidelines from the commissioner's handbook relating to a commission's relationship with the Town Council. The primary responsibility of a commission is to make recommendations to the Town Council who make policy decisions. A commission cannot take a formal position on an issue. They must align themselves with a neutral position. An individual, however, can speak to an issue apart from the commission. Regarding the skate park, the Town Council has not taken a position.

Discussion on the skate park ensued. Steve Leonardis responded to a question about the amount of money raised for the park. Chief Seaman responded to a question about whether parking was going to be eliminated in the skate park area. There will be parking along the fence next to the roadway but it will be limited. There is concern about the impact on businesses in the community because parking spaces are being eliminated where the park is to be built. This could impact the holiday season.

The purpose of Measure D was clarified for the group. Its primary purpose addresses funding of the skate park which is to be provided by funds raised in the community with the stipulation that the remaining balance will be paid by the Town up to \$1,000,000 and will include yearly maintenance fees up to \$50,000 to be paid by the Town.

There was much discussion which followed regarding the Youth Commission's role regarding the skate park. The consensus was that the Chair and Vice Chair are to take the following items to their meeting with the Mayor and Vice Mayor next week.

- 1) A skate park would benefit the community as a whole, not just those who skateboard.
- 2) The Commission supports the Miles Ave. site.
- 3) The town should contribute funding beyond what has already been allocated to make the skate park a reality. The community must contribute as much as is possible to build the park, but more financial support is needed from the town of Los Gatos.

### **Discussion of Retail Opportunities for Youth**

There was discussion about businesses in Los Gatos and their attitude toward teens. It was felt that some businesses don't value youth in the community. Chief Seaman suggested that the commission could have the Chamber of Commerce Director or Danielle Surdin, the Economic Vitality Manager, attend one of our meetings so that the

commission could better understand and explore the issues. The Commission decided to table the discussion until after they meet with the abovementioned people.

## **ITEMS OF INFORMATION**

### **Report on National League of Cities Conference Attendance**

Participants to the conference gave a very brief overview of the showcase. They found value in talking to other city leaders and youth commissions. Some of the commissioners attended the environmental workshop. It was decided that environmental issues and the role of the Youth Commission will be discussed at the next meeting.

### **Sub-Committee Reports**

#### **Sub-Committee to Provide Guidelines for Sub-Committees**

The members of the committee met and came up with a set of guidelines for those who participate and volunteer for sub-committees. It is a two check system. Members must:

- RSVP to a meeting two days prior to the meeting.
- Sub-committee leaders have to give a 2-week notice of the meeting prior to the meeting.
- If a member is unable to attend, he/she must contact the leader two days prior to the meeting.
- You have 2 days after a missed sub-committee meeting to check in with the chair for updates.
- If you fail to do any of the above, two or more times you will be removed from the sub-committee.
- The leader will notify a member if he/she receives a check mark.
- The leader will contact the Chair so that he is aware of the meeting dates and times.

Liz Mellema made a motion, seconded by Peter Hadar, to adopt the guidelines as presented. **Passed 8-0**

### **Discussion Regarding Art Classes Offered by The Venue**

Mike Loya is planning a meeting with the high school and Fisher Middle School to see what they offer. By April, he will have a list put together of available classes.

## **COMMISSION MATTERS**

### **Assignment to Develop Commission Training on How to Conduct an Effective Meeting**

Brandy Pech approached this subject at the last meeting. Since she was not present at this meeting, there was limited discussion. Item tabled until next meeting.

Chief Seaman distributed Form 700 to the commissioners and assisted them and filling out the information.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.