

MINUTES
REGULAR YOUTH COMMISSION MEETING
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
110 E. MAIN ST.
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 8, 2011

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Ben Baranovsky called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Commissioners Present: Ben Baranovsky, Morgan Brost, Rodd Farhadi, Hirsh Goswamy, Jacob Hershberger, Erin Hughes, Killian Jackson, Doug McLeod, Matthew Mingrone, Zaul Moayedian, Avi Salem, Kiara Stickney, Julie Wiederhold

Commissioners Absent: James Marino, Nicky Robinson

Alternates Present: Adam Gramling, Jack Horan, Warren Nakazawa, Nikhil Patel, Thomas Wrappe

Alternates Absent:

Staff: Chief Scott Seaman, Irene Shrier

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Vice-Chair, Ben Baranovsky, called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of January 11, 2011

Doug McLeod made a motion, seconded by Rodd Farhadi, to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2011 meeting. **(Passed 13-0)**

VERBAL COMMUNICATION

Mike Loya, new Executive Director for A Place for Teens, addressed the changes that are taking place and plans for the future for this organization. A Place for Teens will be creating a few teen stores to bring revenue to the center to support activities for teens in the community. The store will employ teen employees and will take donations from teens, such as clothing, X boxes, video games, etc. to sell. The organization is currently looking for a location in Town which will become the center. Mike said that concerts will be coming back. He asked the commission for ideas for activities they would like to see. The

following are a list of suggestions: trips to the board walk, surfing trip, river rafting, camping trip with hiking, off-site concerts, long board parties, BMX biking, wind surfing, basketball/dodge ball tournaments, guitar lessons (from local musicians), and getting donations for A Place for Teens during spirit week, and work with other campus groups to get the word out.

If you have other suggestions you can contact Mike at mike@aplaceforteens.org.

ITEMS OF DISCUSSION

2. Walk-One-Week Campaign

Darcy Paul, Director of the Cupertino Parks and Recreation Department, along with Lauren Phillips and four Teen Commission representatives, discussed their Walk-One-Week Campaign. They distributed a brochure to each commissioner regarding the program and gave a detailed explanation. Nine Cupertino schools, elementary and middle, are participating in this year's event which will run from March 30-April 13. Students must walk, bike, scooter, skateboard or roller blade to school for at least 3 city blocks. Points are awarded for those participating and are accrued and logged by the PTA. Those who accrue the most points will win prizes as incentives. Merchandise for prizes is donated by community businesses. Prizes include such things as Apple iPodNano/Touch, movie tickets, gift cards, etc. The goal of the program is to reduce traffic and contribute to the sustainability of the city.

The Teen Commission is taking this program to other surrounding cities and is asking for their participation. They will provide brochures and a banner for each participating school. The total expense for the program has been \$3,000 and it has been funded by the Cupertino City Council for their city. Lauren Phillips, lauren@cupertino.org, distributed her card and asked the commission to contact her if they would like to sponsor this program in Los Gatos.

Discussion on Los Gatos Sustainability Initiatives and Possibilities

The following are suggestions that were made for sustainability:

- Meatless Mondays
- Classrooms with recycling bins
- More information on what is recyclable
- Reminders/announcements about recycling
- Replace water bottles with canteens which could be sold on campus
- Get 5 gallon water bottles for refilling regular bottles
- Raise money by class for recycling bottles

3. Report on Meeting with the Mayor/Vice Mayor/Town Manager

Ben reported that he and Nicky met with Chief Seaman, Town Manager Larson, Mayor Pirzynski and Vice Mayor Rice to discuss Youth Commission goals and to give input on the North 40. They discussed Los Gatos' core values and encouraged the Youth Commission to their own create core value sheet.

They further discussed what stores teens would like to see in town. It was suggested that an In and Out Burger would be desirable. In light of this discussion, the commission spent time looking at other retailers that would keep teen business in Los Gatos. Suggestions were Vans Shoes, a board shop less expensive than NC, sports apparel and equipment shop which would be affordable, Game Crazy, Target, Best Buy, outlet shops, Pac Sun, Sports Authority, clothing stores that are affordable, a theater complex and convenience stores other than 711.

4. Youth Friendly Business Plan

The library has drafted a letter to be delivered to Youth Friendly Businesses in Los Gatos asking them to participate in the summer reading program. Those volunteering to help deliver the letters are Erin Hughes, Morgan Brost, Killian Jackson, Hirsh Goswamy and Doug McLeod.

The following suggestions for the Youth Friendly Business of the Year are: Los Gatos Coffee Roasting Company, Los Gatos Meats, Mr. Pickles, The Apple Store, Café de Flore, Nothing Bundt Cakes, Pizza My Heart, Walgreens, Baskin Robbins, Borders, Willow Street Pizza, Blendz, High Tech Burrito, Powells, Los Gatos Barbers, NC Board Shop, and Starbucks on Blossom Hill Road.

5. Brainstorm Ideas for Remainder of Year

The following were ideas for the Youth Commission to consider for the future: introduce the Youth Friendly Business concept to other neighboring communities, follow up with the parking issue, discuss sports opportunities/facilities for kids in Town and further discuss Project Cornerstone assets. These will be discussed at the next meeting.

6. Youth Commission Marketing

The commission discussed how they could make the Youth Commission known in the community. It was suggested that commissioners talk to school groups, advertise via posters, radio or school announcements, school yearbook and newspaper and Facebook. Chief will look into the option of a Los Gatos Youth Commission Facebook page. One other suggestion was for the Youth Commission to sponsor a spirit week for town with a summer theme.

Chief distributed some Youth Commission pens and t-shirts from a prior year.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.