

MINUTES
REGULAR YOUTH COMMISSION MEETING
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
110 E. MAIN ST.
MINUTES OF APRIL 20, 2010

ROLL CALL:

Commissioners Present: Ben Baranovsky, Rodd Farhadi, Paul Glenn, Hirsh Goswamy, Killian Jackson, Sheridan Jones, Doug McLeod, Matthew Mingrone, Nicky Robinson, Autefeh Sajjadi, Avi Salem, Robbie Van Unen, Andrew Yang

Commissioners Absent: Jacob Hershberger, Alissa Miller

Alternates Present: Zaul Moayedian, James Marino

Alternates Absent: Noel Painter, Julie Wiederhold

Staff: Chief Scott Seaman, Irene Shrier

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Nicky Robinson called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of April 13, 2010

Ben Baranovsky made a motion, seconded by Autefeh Sajjadi, to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2010 meeting. **(Passed 13-0)**

VERBAL COMMUNICATION

There was no verbal communication.

ITEMS OF DISCUSSION

2. Youth Friendly Business Update

- The Commission reviewed YFB matrix that was distributed.
- Ben, Zaul, Rodd and Chief Seaman met with Ed Rathman, owner of Main St. Burger, to discuss concerns the students had regarding unfriendly treatment at Main St. They reported back that the meeting went very well. Mr. Rathman was very interested to hear what the commissioners had to say about the business not being youth friendly and sat down with them over complimentary sodas. He had scheduled an employee meeting after the meeting with the commissioners to discuss the concerns with his employees. The commissioners did visit Main Street Burger a week later and the staff was supportive and friendly.

At the meeting Mr. Rathman, gave the students some background on the business and let them know that the staff at Main Street is strict because they want to do a good job and they frequently deal with kids who abuse the facility. Through this process, the commissioners also found out that Mr. Rathman makes many local contributions and is very supportive of the community.

Chief Seaman was very pleased with how the meeting went because it gave the commissioners and the owner valued input and information and it established a relationship. Chief voiced that this process is the best way to handle concerns with businesses that the Youth Commission view as not youth friendly.

The commission would also like to set up a meeting with CVS and Fleur De Coca management to discuss concerns that they have with these businesses not being youth friendly. Chief Seaman will help getting these meetings established. Zaul, Rodd, Ben and Robbie would like to be part of a meeting with CVS.

The commission decided to instate Main Street Burger as a youth friendly business. Old Adobe Barber Shop will also be added to the YFB list.

- The commission reviewed a letter which was drafted to go to selected businesses notifying them that they had been selected as youth friendly. Phone and email contact information will be added to the letter. The YFB decal will be included with the letter which will be sent out next week.
- The commission also took nominations for Youth Friendly Business of the year. A letter from the community nominating JJ Magoos for their exceptional support for families and children, including specific examples of their support of the schools was included. Other nominations included the Los Gatos Coffee Roasting Company for their support and hosting the Under 21 Club and exceptional service and respect for youth, Cold Stone for hiring teens and offering discount coupons to the Police Department for kids who wear bicycle and skateboard helmets, and the Apple Store for their enthusiasm for the youth friendly business program and their great service to teens were made. After a vote, the commission selected JJ Magoos as the Youth Friendly Business of the year.

3. Update on Venue-a-thon

- A Venue-a-thon which was a telethon that was broadcast on KCAT on Sunday, May 16 to benefit A Place for Teens and The Venue raised more than \$10,000. The Venue-a-thon featured local performances by student musicians and actors. In addition to the money that was raised, The Venue take is being matched dollar for dollar by the town, up to \$10,000.

4. Update on Efforts to Address Teen Stress

- Chief addressed the issue of teen stress and suicide in the Los Gatos community and how it affects all of us. Professionals have been working in the schools to help students cope with stress and deal with a number of suicides that have occurred.
- A discussion followed among the commissioners regarding the importance of making professionals, administrators or teachers aware of teens that are under a

lot of stress and exhibiting signs of troubled behavior such as depression and bodily cuttings to name a few. The schools are being proactive in discussing and addressing teen suicide. CASSY is a counseling program at LGHS that deals directly with this issue and can help. It is better to save a life than to be sorry later for not being proactive.

- The commission thought it was important to take special notice of students who are feeling neglected or treated as outcasts, engage them in conversation and make them feel welcome.
- The Commission may address this issue as part of next year's agenda.

COMMISSION MATTERS

Chief Seaman thanked the commission for their great work this year and especially the exceptional work in implementing the Youth Friendly Business program. Special thanks to Robbie and Nicky for their leadership throughout the year.

ADJOURNMENT

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