



City of Goodyear

See meeting location
below

Meeting Minutes

Youth Commission

Wednesday, May 27, 2020

5:00 PM

Conference Call

Due to Governor Ducey's "Stay Healthy, Return Smarter, Return Stronger " order, and the requirements of social distancing, this meeting will be held by telephone conference. Members of the public may participate by calling 602-609-7636 and entering Conference ID 776 575 045#.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Burton called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m.

ROLL CALL

- Present** 14 - Chairman Gabriella Burton, Commissioner Roman Mena, Commissioner Noah Caraway, Commissioner Kaitlyn Blankenship, Commissioner Victoria Lauritano, Commissioner Lorenzo Castro, Commissioner Raymond Gue, Commissioner Jackson Hamblin, Commissioner Connor Schaeffer, Commissioner Grace Schaeffer, Commissioner Josh McGee, Commissioner Tristan Smith, Commissioner Sanjin Gonilovic and Commissioner Meredith Horne
- Excused** 5 - Vice Chairman Madison See, Commissioner Serena Navarro, Commissioner Patrick Mackie, Commissioner Maren Rice and Commissioner Anyanka Carlson

Staff Present: Assistant to the Council John Raeder

MOTION BY Commissioner Smith, SECONDED BY Commissioner Gonilovic, to EXCUSE Vice Chairman See and Commissioners Carlson, Mackie, Navarro and Rice from the meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

- Ayes:** 14 - Chairman Burton, Commissioner Mena, Commissioner Caraway, Commissioner Blankenship, Commissioner Lauritano, Commissioner Castro, Commissioner R. Gue, Commissioner Hamblin, Commissioner Schaeffer, Commissioner Schaeffer, Commissioner McGee, Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Gonilovic and Commissioner Horne
- Excused:** 5 - Vice Chairman See, Commissioner Navarro, Commissioner Mackie, Commissioner Rice and Commissioner Carlson

APPROVE MINUTES

1. [MINUTES](#) Approve draft minutes from the Youth Commission meeting held on February 26, 2019-130 2020.

MOTION BY Commissioner Connor Schaeffer, SECONDED BY Commissioner Lauritano, to APPROVE the minutes of the Youth Commission meeting held on February 26, 2020.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 14 - Chairman Burton, Commissioner Mena, Commissioner Caraway, Commissioner Blankenship, Commissioner Lauritano, Commissioner Castro, Commissioner R. Gue, Commissioner Hamblin, Commissioner Schaeffer, Commissioner Schaeffer, Commissioner McGee, Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Gonilovic and Commissioner Horne

Excused: 5 - Vice Chairman See, Commissioner Navarro, Commissioner Mackie, Commissioner Rice and Commissioner Carlson

CITIZENS COMMENTS/ APPEARANCES FROM THE FLOOR

None.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

2. **Cookies, Cocoa & Convo Event Recap Discussion (Gabriella Burton, Chair)**

Assistant to the Council John Raeder provided a recap of the Youth Commission Cookies, Cocoa & Convo event at Millennium High School on March 4, 2020. The event was focused on creating a safe space for teens to make meaningful connections and have conversations with their peers while having fun. 32 youth attend the event, 13 Commissioners and 19 guests, representing schools across the region, including: Millennium, Estrella Foothills, Desert Edge, Verrado, La Jolla, Basis, Odyssey, Trivium, and home school. Mr. Raeder explained that the Youth Commission led event included networking, an ice breaker game called crossing the line, and small group youth facilitated discussion. He also noted that the atmosphere was extremely positive and the youth participants had great conversations. Five Millennium counselors also attended the event and they were extremely impressed by the leadership exhibited by the Commissioners.

Chairman Burton led a discussion with the Commission to discuss what went well and areas for improvement for future events. Chairman Burton noted that overall the event went really well and there was strong participation from the Commissioners and attendees. Additionally, the ice breaker game was really well received and the small group conversations were very meaningful. The Commissioners also discussed the following opportunities for improvement during future events:

- Consider making the event longer to provide additional time for discussion;
- Create more breaks to meet people during small group discussion;
- Provide more opportunities for individuals to share with the group;

- Include a resource table;
- Provide more water and less cocoa;
- Increase marketing on campus prior to the event; and
- Conduct follow-up with attendees.

3. National League of Cities (NLC) Congressional Conference Report (Gabriella Burton, Madison See, Kaitlyn Blankenship, Serena Navaro)

Chairman Burton and Commissioner Blankenship provided a report on the Youth Commission delegation that attended the National League of Cities Congressional Conference in Washington, DC on March 6-11, 2020. They discussed different aspects of the trip including sight seeing at the White House, Smithsonian and US Capitol; meeting elected officials; and learning and interacting with peers during conference sessions.

4. Youth Commission End of the Year Summary (John Raeder, Assistant to the Council)

Mr. Raeder provided a presentation on the FY20 Youth Commission activities. He stated that even though the year was drastically impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Youth Commission still had many accomplishments, including:

- Participating in the inaugural Leadership West Youth Leadership Conference;
- Volunteering for Make a Difference Day;
- Volunteering at the Goodyear Fall Festival;
- Planning and hosting the Goodyear Youth Commission Cookies, Cocoa & Convo Event;
- Provided feedback to the Parks and Recreation Department;
- Worked collaboratively with Digital Communications; and
- Sending a delegation to Washington, DC for the NLC Congressional Conference.

INFORMATION ITEMS

None

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Commission will be in August, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Chairman Burton adjourned the meeting at 5:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

John Raeder, Assistant to the Council

Gabriella Burton, Chairman

Date: _____

