



Youth Commission Minutes: April 13, 2023
City Hall, Galesburg, IL

Meeting Called to Order: Eciel Burns called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m., once a quorum was reached.

Attendance:

Members Present:

Eciel Burns, Mia Haneghan, Courtney Wallace, Zakary Warfield,
Andrew Jowers

City of Galesburg:

Elizabeth Varner, Director of Parks and Recreation
Jackie Smith -Esters, City Council Member

Absent: Precious Dortch, Jennifer Foubert, Chantiara Jackson, Joy
Basosa-Nzumba

Minutes: Minutes from February 2023 meeting were approved, with motions from Courtney Wallace and Reverend Andrew Jowers. The March 2023 meeting was cancelled due to snowstorm.

Parks & Recreation Report:

Director of Parks and Recreation, Elizabeth Varner, provided flyers and a report of programs offered by the City of Galesburg Parks and Recreation. She reported that April 22, 2023 is Earth Day and there will be a clean up day at Kiwanis Park with United Way and Kiwanis Club if the Youth Commission would like to volunteer. Friday, April 28, 2023 is Arbor Day, and a tree will be planted at Steele School.

Old Business:

Youth Commission Shirts: Elizabeth and Jackie Smith-Esters both reached out to Go Van Goghs but have not had a reply. Jackie also reached out to Young Professionals to see if they would sponsor shirts for the Youth Commission

Youth Extra Effort Award: Elizabeth reported that the City Clerk has been working on a form to be on-line for Youth Extra Effort nominations.

Chairperson, Eciel Burns, reported that there are currently two youth and one adult opening for the Youth Commission. Elizabeth will call the members not in attendance to ensure they would like to continue to be on the Youth Commission. Schools are also being contacted.

New Business:

Adopt A Park: Elizabeth reminded commissioners of Earth Day and asked that a Clean up of H.T. Custer Park be planned for Adopt a Park at the next meeting.



Guest Speakers: Chairperson, Eciel Burns asked for a list of future guest speakers for the Youth Commission. Ideas that were suggested included the Superintendent of Schools, Steve Abron, Tracy Engstrom (Career Development Director of CSC on Public Speaking) and Galesburg Christian School Director. Eciel asked members to email Elizabeth with ideas and contact information.

2023-2024 School Calendar: There was a discussion on the changes to the next calendar year school schedule.

Presentation: Mia Haneghan did an outstanding job with a presentation she prepared for the Youth Commission. She discussed a "Media Day" once t-shirts are purchased for marketing and social media presence. Social Media could include QR codes, links, photos, and a host benefit with proceeds going to a family of a house burned down. Another benefit could be at Applebee's. A picture on top of the 2nd highest point in the city, the Bondi Building, was suggested. Mia presented another t-shirt idea with an emblem of YC and City of Galesburg on a pocket and on the back "In Youth We Learn", Youth Commission. Mia talked about a non-Greek organization at CSC in which they are making a difference with such topics as recognizing Women's History Month and getting the Hispanic Latino Association to recognize Boxcar Families.

City Council Member, Jaquelyn Smith-Esters suggested volunteering at Café in the Park. Eciel suggested bracelets with YC or Pens that say Youth Commission.

Eciel presented Jackie with flowers and a certificate thanking her for her dedication and service to the Youth Commission and a picture was taken of the group.

Youth Commission Report: Eciel Burns agreed to present the Youth Commission report at the April 17, 2023 meeting.

Meeting was adjourned: 5:30 p.m.

Motions from Mia Haneghan and Reverend Andrew Jowers.

Next Meeting: Thursday, May 11, 2023

Elizabeth Varner

Director of Parks & Recreation, Elizabeth Varner