

Commission on the Status of Children & Youth
January 17th, 2023
Minutes

Present: Katie Hopkins, Emily Alford, Tatiana Wheeler, Isadore Torry

Absent: Danielle Willis

1. Introductions

Katie made a motion to start the meeting at 5:40pm. Emily seconded the motion.

2. Request for additional items

There weren't any additional items to add to the agenda.

3. Approval of Minutes: Oct 17

Katie made a motion to approve the minutes. Emily seconded the motion.

4. New Business

- A. **Update on Commissioners:** Jimmy announced that he will not be returning to the commission for this upcoming term. Shatoiya informed the group that the commissioners in this new term include: Katie, Emily, Tatiana, and Danielle.

- B. **Update Website:** Emily brought up the idea to include information about the commissioners on the website. Tatiana and Katie both agreed, including more photos on the website would be great. Katie mentioned the idea of including the history of past S.W.A.G.G.E.R. award winners. Shatoiya will work on implementing some of these ideas into the site.

- C. **Update Brochure:** Tatiana offered to help update the brochure alongside one of Shatoiya's interns.

- D. **Commissioner Name Tags:** Shatoiya notified the group that we should have name tags by the next meeting.

5. Old Business

- A. **S.W.A.G.G.E.R. Awards:** Shatoiya informed us that the awards brought other community support for the students who were awarded. Katie mentioned that she wished she started collecting donations sooner. Tatiana and Katie agreed that adding music to the event could have livened it up. Some ideas that came up would be to create a photobooth for attendees and poster boards with previous winners. Toiya mentioned an idea to get more donations and sponsors would be to invite the sponsors to the event to present their donations. Emily offered to make a list of businesses to reach out to in the future for donations. Katie offered to update the letter to donors. Jimmy mentioned that he liked the idea of making

the overall event more kid-friendly. Toiya also brought up the idea to consider gifting every student something small to acknowledge them.

- B. **Teen Round Table:** Due to the shift of the mayor's office, Toiya hasn't been able to discuss getting youth on the commission yet. She will be following up with Kaisa Goodman before the next commission meeting.
- C. **YPB:** This is something that was written under John Hamilton's administration so Toiya isn't sure if it will still continue past his administration. Katie mentioned that she would be interested in redesigning the program. Toiya mentioned that YPB is inspired by Boston's YPB. Click [here](#) for more information. Toiya informed the commission that we could ask Pedro, the director of the Boston program, ideas. Emily offered to do some research of general youth programs to gather ideas we can use to implement for YPB or the redesign of YPB. [Home - Participatory Budgeting Project](#) has a map of comparable cities Bloomington. One comparable city we found was Louisville, KY's program Our Money, Our Voice.
- D. **Schools Out Summer Celebration:** The Warehouse informed Jimmie that they are unavailable for the Fridays we were hoping to have this event. Shatoiya brought up these partner ideas: Skateland, Boys and Girls Club, Big Brothers, Big Sisters, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts,. Tatiana offered to reach out to Courtney Payne-Taylor to see if the Boys and Girls club is hosting any schools out events.

6. City Staff Liaison Report

- A. Toiya informed the group that the theme of Black History Month is Black Innovation. There will be a Black Market that features black-owned creators Saturday Feb 11th. Essay Contents and Reception : Feb 16th at Fairview Elementary School. Black History Month Gala :Feb 25th at Woolery Mall. Black History Month Calendar: Any organization can add an event to the calendar.
- B. Find all the details for the Black History Month [here!](#)

7. Community Updates

- A. The commission thanked Jimmie for his time on the commission.
- B. The Rise is in desperate need of pampers and hygiene products. The Rise has 3 openings.

8. Adjournment

- A. Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:11pm. Jimmie seconded the motion.