

Commission on the Status of Children & Youth
April 18th, 2023
5:30pm

Present: Danielle Willis, Erin Reynolds, Katie Hopkins, Tatiana Wheeler, Emily Alford
Absent:

1. Introductions

Katie made a motion to start the meeting at 5:30pm. Erin seconded the motion.

2. Request for additional agenda items

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

3. Approval of Minutes: March 21st

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

4. New Business

A. There wasn't any new business.

5. Old Business

Shatoiya reminded the group that each commissioner is tasked with chairing one that the commission hosts.

- A. **Update Brochure:** Tatiana will be dedicating this Friday (April 21st) to updating the brochure. She will be sharing a draft design with the group on Friday.
- B. **Update Website:** The group discussed that they will like our key initiatives listed out on our website. Tatiana will be talking to Liz about website changes this week.
- C. **Commissioner Name Tags:** Marissa notified the group that many commissioners are still waiting on their name tags.
- D. **S.W.A.G.G.E.R. Awards:** Katie told us that the S.W.A.G.G.E.R timeline she made last year is in the google drive. You can find it here. We will use this spreadsheet to keep us organized in the planning process.

Erin asked if there were certain agencies that we share S.W.A.G.G.E.R. nominations with (like Middle Way House, New Hope etc). Katie mentioned that in the past the commissioners have tried to target Title 1 schools.

E. **Tabling the MCSC Open Houses:** Open houses occur mid-end of August. They should occur the 2nd and 3rd week. By the time of the open house we need to make sure that the nomination form, press release, donor letters, vendors, and budget are completed.

- Erin will take Fairview Elementary.
- Emily will table Templeton and Batchelor Middle School
- Danielle will table at Arlington Heights and Tri North
- Katie will table at North Bloomington High School
- Tatiana is willing to table whatever school, she may be out of town her school is TBD as of now.

We need commissioners for Jackson Creek and Highland Park. Erin will make a spreadsheet to organize the commissioners' tabling schedules.

The group discussed the need for knowing what outreach supplies we have. Emily will ask Shatoiya about the commission's inventory of outreach material.

Erin brought up the idea to do a survey asking people "how do you want the city commissioners to support your children?" Another tabling idea is to have a big sheet of paper with the question "How do we make Bloomington the Best Place to Raise a Kid? People could then put their answers onto post-it notes.

Erin can work on making the survey for our outreach strategy. We talked about adding a discussion of the outreach strategy to the May 2023 agenda.

F. **Schools Out Summer Celebration:**

Erin reached out to the Crestmont Club and they are interested but want more information. Tatiana emailed Sherrie Clay and Leon to ask if the BHA is hosting any school out celebrations. She hasn't heard anything back. Erin doubts BHA is hosting anything so she will continue to talk to the club about ideas. Katie mentioned that Thriving Connections is hosting a summer celebration May 25th for kids. There will be an outdoor movie and hotdogs. In the event that BHA and Boys and Girls Club aren't doing anything, we can volunteer and support the event Thriving Connections is hosting.

G. Teen Commission Liaisons:

The commission discussed changing this initiative into creating spots on the commission for teen representation. The group agreed to focus on having liaisons from each highschool.

We talked about having an application and a nomination form to recruit students.

Liaisons will be responsible for sharing challenges - how do we make this a platform for the voice of youth. Marissa suggested looking into school clubs that may be good to reach out to for a good starting place.

What teens can get out of this: they can choose their "resume name", letter of rec, etc Emily will mock up a scope of work that details what the teen liaison will be doing. Tatiana offered to chair this initiative.

Solidify outreach materials at the next commission meeting.

- H. **YPB initiatives:** This initiative is on pause. Shatoiya is waiting to see what the new administration decides.

6. City Staff Liaison Report

- A. Juneteenth- Shatoiya was out of town, so there

7. Community Updates

Tatiana informed the group that Heading Home of South Central Indiana is hosting a City Council Learning session on April 24th from 7:00pm-8:30pm.

8. Miscellaneous

Erin needs Shatoiya to give her access to the google drive.

9. Adjournment

- A. Katie made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:35pm. Danielle seconded the motion.