

**MEETING MINUTES
COMMISSION ON CHILDREN YOUTH & FAMILIES
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS
January 8, 2015
Farmington Hills City Hall Community Room located at:
31555 W. Eleven Mile Rd., Farmington Hills, Mi. 48336**

CALLED TO ORDER BY: Chairman, Paul Melrose at 6:00 pm.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kathy Ashcraft, Karen Bolsen, Ed Cherkinsky, Stephanie Davis, Rebecca Dworkin, C. J. Felton, Carmen Francis, Diane Hague, Anthony Lewis, Carla Mackey, Joan McGlinicy, Paul Melrose, Jim Nash, Andy Nichelhoff, Leana Parker, Bette Rose, Mitch Seelye, and Eugene Thomas.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bill Dwyer, Anwar Mahmood, Marla Parker, Michael Peters, Laura Scott and Sandy Smith.

OTHERS PRESENT: Farmington and Farmington Hills Council, City, or Staff Liaison members: Lew Cantor, Frank Demers, Josephine Hobson, Todd Lipa and Jon Manier.

GUESTS: Guest Speaker: Farmington Public School Superintendent, George Heitsch, Director of Community, School Relations for Farmington Public Schools, Diane Bauman and Farmington Hills Public Library Staff Members: Maria Showich-Gallup, Josh Schu and Jennifer Willard.

#	AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION SUMMARY/PERTINENT INFO	FORMAL MOTIONS:
1	APPROVAL OF AGENDA 1/8/15	Introduction of Commission members and Liaisons including The Guest Speaker George Heitsch, Director of Community School Relations for Farmington Public Schools, Diane Bauman, the new Farmington Public School Representative, Jon Manier and Library Staff Members, Maria Showich-Gallup, Josh Schu and Jennifer Willard subbing for Laura Scott.	MOTION BY: Jim Nash SUPPORT BY: Stephanie Davis MOTION CARRIED: Unanimous
2	APPROVAL OF MINUTES 11/6/14	There was a consensus of members for the new parchment stationary. A Plaque was presented to Paul Melrose honoring his resignation after 14 years of service to CYF. Thank yous and best wishes were given by CYF Members.	MOTION BY: Mitch Seelye SUPPORT BY: Diane Hague MOTION CARRIED: Unanimous
3	AGENDA ITEM: Youth Division Update	Todd Lipa: On 1/14/15, there will be a kickoff session at the Costick Center to seek a \$5000.00 grant from the Energy Prize Competition. On 1/27/15, there will be a Depression Suicide (SAFE) Program at the Costick Center with featured speaker, Jordan Barnum, with his theme of families handling depression and suicide issues. He will be targeting Farmington Public School Students also. There are 5 Centers in the After-School Program handling 578 Students. The Ratio is 285 girls and 294 boys. Breakdown program diversity: 256 African-Americans, 238 Caucasians, 27 Hispanics and 40 Asian. 5 th and 6 th grade attendance is high. The 4 th grade Introduction Packet is printed and ready for distribution. The Youth Program is celebrating its 20 th year from March 2015 to March 2016. Studies have confirmed the benefits of being in a diverse school system and youth program.	
4	AGENDA ITEM: Issues Committee Update	Diane Hague: The date for the Technical and Vocational Event will be 4/20 or 4/27 depending on the availability of the keynote speaker, Michael Finney. April 27 is most optimal to avoid any conflicts with the Schools. Dr. Gage was thanked for preparing the Invitation and the Agenda which includes (a.) The Keynote Speaker, (b.) Summary of what is to follow, (c.) 6 information stations with a preview of what is to follow and (d.) 3 short presentations. We hope to get more exposure on ListServe and with FPS administration and staff. Diane will be meeting with Gillian Pines on event publicity.	
5	AGENDA ITEM: Call to Action	Mitch Seelye: Alateen kids were taken to the Christmas Lights Celebration in Rochester on 12/14. A meeting followed the event. A Bowling and Pizza Party event is scheduled for 2/2/15 and members are encouraged to ask others to attend. A recruitment meeting with FPS is	

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		scheduled. There is a \$2000.00 PSA Grant available to coordinate with use with FPS. There is an Alliance Coalition Publicity Campaign urging “Be 21 to buy, don't supply” for kids and vendors.	
6	AGENDA ITEM: CYF Spotlight	Carmen Francis: The November 2014 College Financing Program is completed. A new co-host and new program ideas are needed.	
7	AGENDA ITEM: Program on Bullying Update	Josephine Hobson, our Liaison from the Commission on Aging wanted a status on our bullying venture. C. J. Felton informed us that there was a discussion on “Students Speaking to Parents,” and giving their views on bullying. However, there is follow-up currently and the Issues Committee has tabled it.	
8	AGENDA ITEM: Guest Speaker: George Heitsch	<p>George Heitsch: Outlined his teaching and administrative history and experience at Huron Valley, West Bloomfield, FPS and Avondale. His agenda was listen to the Community and find out what is happening. He outlined the changes in education: (a). ¼ of FPS students are at or near poverty level, (b). 44% of students are now African-American, (c). There is static funding from the State, (d). there is a declining population which means less turn over of housing from elderly to the young and (e). we need to focus on reality and “fix” the myths of what is going on in education and FPS. Budget Issues include: (a). FPS equity is spent, the “rainy day” has happened, (b). the student enroll is down from 12,000 to 9,000, which fewer students need fewer buildings, (c). there is a focus group studying what buildings to close and (d). we need a plan to help the Community adapt. A third Bond Issue will be on the ballot in May. If the facilities are not updated fewer families will be attracted to FPS. The Board of Education needs realignment of the educational process: (a). students need to be proficient readers by 3rd grade, (b). students need to be prepared for College and equipped to finish, (c). there is a need to provide for students not choosing College and (d.) there needs to be a plan for helping students who start school at a disadvantage.</p> <p>Carmen: Can the Kalamazoo Promise be instituted in Farmington. George Heitsch said yes, but donors with deep pockets are needed. Todd and Carmen discussed kids volunteering at Henry Ford Hospital and Botsford Hospital. Students are participating in an accelerated program at the Farmington Hills Campus of Wayne State University. Contact Deb McCracken or Diane Bauman for FPS resource information.</p>	
9	AGENDA ITEM: New Business and Announcements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Public Safety Report: (a). Chuck Nebus reports that in Farmington Hills all crime is down to historic lows which includes murder (0), burglaries, car thefts, armed robberies, sexual and aggravated assault, (b), Nebus credits the quality of officers, diverse force and a good crime lab. 2. Frank Demers also reported the same historic lows in the City of Farmington. 3. Both Demers and Nebus reported on the Green Dot scam highlighted in the Farmington Observer. Callers identify themselves as a police officer and threaten to issue a warrant for overdue citations. The person is directed to buy a prepaid credit card and call back with the numbers to avoid arrest. Unfortunately, unsuspecting citizens have been duped. 4. YMCA Report: Leana Parker informed us that the YMCA has formed a partnership with the Detroit Pistons. Basketball clinics will be held with team members and YMCA kids participating. 38 families 	

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		<p>attended pancakes with Santa. There are plans to begin a Family Nights program at the Y. A Snow Day Camp is being planned.</p> <p>5. Library Report: Marie Showich-Gallup informed that a Screen Night is being held on 2/8/15 at the Farmington Civic Theater with an admission price of \$15.00. The Hollywood Short Films that are nominated for an Oscar will be screened and a social will follow the screening. Todd Lipa reminded us that there will be a Martin Luther King Birthday Celebration at the Farmington Hill Library on 1/19.</p>	
	PUBLIC COMMENTS	None.	
	ADJOURNMENT	Motion to adjourn at 7:15 pm.	<p>MOTION BY: Eugene Thomas</p> <p>SECOND BY: Carla Mackey</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED: Unanimous</p>
	MINUTES PREPARED BY	<p>Ed Cherkinsky, Secretary, with assistance by Joan McGlincy</p> <p>Contact Information: Ed Cherkinsky at (248) 661-5114 or echerkinsk@aol.com</p>	