

MEETING MINUTES
FARMINGTON/FARMINGTON HILLS
COMMISSION ON CHILDREN, YOUTH, & FAMILIES
FEBRUARY 6, 2025
COMMUNITY ROOM, FARMINGTON HILLS CITY HALL,
31555 W. ELEVEN MILE RD., FARMINGTON HILLS, MI. 48336

1) Call to Order

- A. Meeting called to order at 6:12
- B. Quorum announced
 - a. Members present: Alisa Valden, Sharon Snodgrass, Marie Sarnecki, Ashley Gabb, Tanya Nordhaus, Jordan Scrimger, Rod Wallace
 - b. Members absent: Brian Spitsbergen, Bria Barker-Lewis, Bhumika Mistry, Adam Whitfield, Tammy Luty
 - c. Liaisons present: Steve Schneemann (Farmington City Council), Marla Parker (47th District Court), Matt Gale (Youth Division), Jim Nash (Oakland County), Doug Edwards (YMCA), Kristel Sexton (FCL)
 - d. Others present: None
 - e. Introductions
 - i. Marla noted that the the recidivism rate of the last Sobriety Court program was 0
 - ii. Steve shared about connections with FPS recently and overlapping priorities with the commission
 - iii. Jim shared about water affordability programs, job shadowing program (see website), and intention to be at Career Night & Hiring Fair, for the last few years we've been missing FPS students at Rouge River Watershed Festival event and would like to change that, dirt doctor demonstration about erosion can be brought to any events
 - 1. Suggestion to connect with Farmington Nature Center (4/22)
 - a. Library and YMCA also interested
 - 2. Can help connect with school district on the event

2) Approval of Agenda

- A. Moved by Tanya
- B. Seconded by Sharon
- C. Motion passes unanimously

3) Approval of January 9, 2025 Minutes

- A. Moved by Rod
- B. Seconded by Ashley
- C. Motion unanimously

4) Youth Division Update

- A. Daddy daughter dance coming up. While they are not having two nights, they extended the registration and capacity of the event.
- B. Chili Golf coming up. About 100 people registered right now. Kind of turned into a father and son event. Morning and evening option. There are more openings in the evening still. No snow though unfortunately.
- C. Earth Day expo on 4/22. The exhibitor form is open now.
- D. After School Youth Program is going well. Two new bus driver applicants. Would like to increase the routes with a third bus and driver in the fall. Most of the back up list is from East Middle School.
- E. Internal Evaluation of programs ongoing.

5) Issues Committee Update

- A. Career Night & Hiring Fair: March 10, 6-8 pm Harrison Hall
 - a. Tanya has connected with all of the previous brainstorming lists, and did not get any responses.
 - b. Doug has been incredibly helpful in sharing connections.
 - c. 13 people/businesses confirmed so far. Tanya is continuing to conduct outreach and send personalized emails to recruit.
 - i. Confirmed: OCC admissions, FHPD, FH DPW, Community Choice CU, OCC Career, YMCA, Schoolcraft, MUSK construction, Baker College, EMAG, Jim Nash, Michigan Works
 - d. Stay behind for a moment after meeting and Tanya will share a form email folks can use to invite other organizations to be present
 - i. Matt will follow up on FH HR department presence and trade connections from HAWK staff
 - 1. Guardian Plumbing, for example
 - ii. Marla will help follow up with Corewell.
 - iii. Jim will help follow up with unions, LEE construction
 - iv. Alisa may be able to help with ISD connections
 - e. Matt will provide water for vendors
 - f. Volunteers from commission: Rod, Marie, Jordan, Alisa
 - i. Matt and Doug as well
 - g. Received quite a few bounce-back emails
 - h. Peach Jar will be going out,
- B. When To Phone A Friend: February 10, 6:30-8:30 pm
 - a. Haven't seen anything from FPS
 - i. Specifically request that teachers send it to their parent/family lists, Peach Jar maybe not effective
 - b. Volunteers from commission: Alisa (maybe)
 - i. Would love support with a welcome and sign-in table
 - ii. Bria
 - c. Will send to Matthew: sticky notes, butcher block paper, markers
 - i. Will have water and snacks
 - ii. Room configuration all set

- C. May 7: FPS showcase
 - a. No more additional info right now, just for awareness
- D. Other events:
 - a. City Open House (September)
 - b. 4/22 Earth Day rock painting
 - c. Collateral pencils and stickers for these events
 - d. Brainstorm what else we can offer
- E. Volunteer Recognition: TBD
 - a. Ashley is stepping down from the commission due to personal capacity
 - b. Marla has supported event across multiple years.
 - c. Continue to want to solidate and improve the event. Thinking about reducing categories and focusing on youth and families. Ensure that this does still continue to be a part of council meeting and truly having the recognition component. Potentially changing what we serve as food, to have things, but not so much left over.
 - d. In past, there's been a consistent conflict with Farmington meeting schedule. Council meets every other week and meet before their meeting.
 - i. Steve: There are times when a meeting would be canceled due to lack of agenda items, so it's possible to make things work.
 - ii. Need to reach out about which meeting to attend at Farmington Hills.
 - iii. May or June likely, but wouldn't want to run into graduation.
 - e. Kept presentation within the half hour.
 - f. Is there a difference in the volume of recipients or nominations from either Farmington or Farmington Hills? Not that we've noted.
 - g. Sharon will volunteer to lead this.
 - h. Come back next meeting with dates options.
- F. Nominations
 - a. Temperature checking on plans for nominations and self-nominations
 - b. Rod makes a motion for Marie to be Vice Chair
 - i. Second by Tanya
 - ii. Unanimously in favor
 - c. Marie makes a motion for Jordan to be Chair
 - i. Second by Alisa
 - ii. Unanimously in favor
 - d. Alisa self-nominates for Secretary
 - i. Second by Jordan
 - ii. Unanimously in favor
- G. Survey Results
 - a. Postponing deeper conversation for next meeting given busy agenda
 - b. If you have trouble identifying issues that interest you, suggestion to pull back a bit
 - c. Come back to next meeting with ideas about events and partnerships
 - d. Think about it in context to quarterly planning

- e. Adding into things we already have planned, rather than adding a ton of new things

6) New Business and Announcements

A. Kristel:

- a. Pokemon event, K-5
- b. FPS is on break starting Feb. 16 and the library will have extra programs in addition to what typically is scheduled
- c. Sarah and Kristel will switch off meetings between kids and teens department at commission meetings
- d. Battle of the Books kicking off, open now
- e. Resource Fair on March 6th 6-8 pm
 - i. If we know of other vendors that would like to table, the deadline to register is the 17th, give them Kristel's email
 - ii. Lots of families and seniors services represented

B. Doug:

- a. Spring programs coming up - chef's clinics, basketball league across 7 different locations and get to compete against other communities
- b. Annual fundraising push - Make Every Day Better campaign - Y Day of Giving on March 4th, April 24th, Annual Golf Classic 12th of August
 - i. Financial assistance to reduce barriers to families in community
- c. Farmington Youth Assistance partnership has been reestablished
 - i. Additional resource for receiving additional support
 - ii. Also a juvenile justice diversion program
 - iii. Rod: Did the Hawk ever build out music programming capabilities?
 - 1. Matt: Not really, assets underutilized
 - 2. My Brother's Keeper program in Washtenaw County was really successful in this partnership around music to enhance options

7) Public Comments

8) Adjournment

- A. Moved by Sharon
- B. Seconded by Ashley
- C. Motion passes unanimously
- D. Meeting adjourned at 7:43 pm