

MEETING MINUTES
FARMINGTON/FARMINGTON HILLS
COMMISSION ON CHILDREN, YOUTH, & FAMILIES

April 3, 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 6:06pm
- B. Quorum announced - yes
 - a. Members present: Sharon Snodgrass, Alisa Valden, Bria Lewis, Bhumika Mistry, Jordan Scrimger, Tanya Nordhaust, Tammy Luty
 - b. Member absent: Rod Wallace, Ashley Gabb, Adam Whitfield,
 - c. Liaisons present: Rebecca Brown, Patrick Spelman, Marla Parker, Liesl Blankenship, Sarah McCarthy, Jim Nash, Steve Schneemann, Douglas Edwards
 - d. Others present: NA

2) Approval of Agenda

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

3) Approval of March 6, 2025 Minutes

- A. The following edits were proposed: NA
 - a. Updated on spelling of Jordan's name on future meeting minutes.
- B. Moved by Tammy
- C. Seconded by Sharon
- D. Motion passes unanimously

4) Youth Division Update

- A. HAWK reports that they have a program planned called Jimiri. It will begin in April and run eight consecutive weeks into early June. This program will be free and will be held at the Wright Museum of African American History. This program will be for 8th graders and focus on building cross racial friendships and promoting social justice.
- B. Other events at the youth program: April – Egg Hunt, May – Fishing trip, June – trip to Heritage Park

5) Issues Committee Update

- A. Career night recap – Tanya gave the group a synopsis of the feedback given from vendor participants and job searchers on the survey. Overall the feedback was positive and participants shared some suggestions that the commission will look at for the next

event. Jordan shared that the Interview tip table had some participants stop and check in. She had one particular attendee that was very pleased with the information that she shared. Jim shared they had three folks signed up to job shadow at Water Resources. The HAWK had some applications too but it was unclear if they were found at the F/FH Commission event or at their follow up event. Group discussed youth needs around hiring and how to expand or change the event for the next time.

- B. Earth Day event – Rock painting 4/22/25 beginning at 4pm Heritage Park. May 31st will be the next event for rock painting and it will take place at the Farmers market. Commission members discussed who would attend to help with the events. Tanya reported that she has supplies for both events.
- C. Volunteer Recognition – Sharon shared the nomination forms are set up online or can be completed at Matt's office at the HAWK. The deadline for applications in 4/19/25. A zoom link will be sent for the members that will read and choose the volunteers for recognition. Tanya will set up the zoom for 4/21/25 @ 7pm. Flyers have also been sent. Jordan will send the nomination link to Alisa to put it in the meeting minutes. Discussed and made changes to the online nomination form. City Council meeting is 5/12/25 and the reception will begin at 6:30pm. Tanya is helping secure some of the snacks for the event and Sharon will make sure that there is a photographer for the event. Sharon proposed a \$500 budget be set aside for the recognition event. Brian seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- D. A number of the committee members attended the State of the City event.

6) New Business and Announcements

- A. Library - Teen Services at the Library is having their Battle of the Books on April 11th. They have twenty teams competing. This event will be held at the Costic Center. They are also planning a Tweens night out for later in the month as well as preparing for the Reading Programs that are on the horizon.
- B. Farmington Public Safety – Discussed an alerting system that will give alerts for incidents or updates for the city. Text Farmington Police to #91896. Little League Parade is taking place on 5/3/25 and will begin at Oakland and Grand River and proceed to the ballfield.
- C. Water Department – Jim shared that this is the 4th year for the Blue Plant Jobs event. They have typically had this event at Cranbrook but due to demand have added another session at the HAWK. This added session is a collaboration with Oakland Schools, Farmington Hills Mayor, The HAWK and Farmington Public Schools. They will have six or seven stations for education and hands on learning. The hope is to encourage students to get into the industry workforce development and education.
- D. Farmington City Council – Discussed Farmers Market opening day and reminders about the Little League Parade day. Also discussed the new park at Grand River/Farmington – this was mostly crowd funded. The Connector park plan was shared that connects downtown Farmington to Shiawassee park. Early concepts are done and will have a gently sloped boardwalk with new areas created.
- E. Court – Sobriety Court is completing their State Certifications this year and they are working to ready for that. They complete this every three years. There is another

coordinated committee to work toward the goal of preventing violence. They will be working this month.

- F. YMCA – Healthy Kids day is coming up. They will have various vendors that focus on families, games and snacks. YMCA is also hosting the Optimist club for an event. On 4/24/25 @ 7:30am to 9am the YMCA will have a fundraising breakfast event.

7) Public Comments

- A. Jordan enjoyed the updated about the parks.
- B. Sharon confirmed the zoom meeting date and time.
- C. Marla mentioned how impressed they were with the Farmington Hills Fire Department and Police Department handled the recent fire within the city.

8) Adjournment

- A. Moved by Jordan
- B. Seconded by Alisa
- C. Motion passes unanimously
- D. Meeting adjourned at 7:23pm