

ORANGE COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSION -MINUTES February 18, 2014

At a regular meeting of the Orange County Youth Commission held on Tuesday, February 18, 2014 beginning at 7:00 p.m., in the Office on Youth, 146 Madison Road, Orange, VA 22960. Present: Shirley Irving, Barry Pendleton, Margee McCord, Donna Merryman, Emmet Aylor, and Alisha Vines.

Mrs. Irving called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with the above noted members present. Minutes from the November meeting were tabled.

RE: YOUTH COUNCIL Emmet Aylor provided an update on the upcoming activities of the Youth Council. Events are listed below:

1. Road Clean-up – March 22
2. Father-Daughter Dance – rescheduled and date to be determined
3. Easter Pancake Dinner – April 12 – location to be determined

In addition, the council members wish to look into having a "volunteer day" where the membership collectively volunteers for a non-profit within the community. Several suggestions were made including the animal shelter and the food pantry.

RE: OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Vines informed the commission members that the Garvis Huff awards ceremony will be held Tuesday, March 11th at Orange County High School starting at 7:00 PM. The deadline for nominations was extended to February 21 due to the inclement weather the previous week. A discussion was held on avenues to pursue for a speaker for the event.

A brief discussion was held on the status of the following current activities:

I. Strengthening Families

The new program coordinator, Ashley Jacobs, has started and is adjusting very well to the program. The second group of the fiscal year has just begun and is being held at the Lake of the Woods Church. There are currently six families that break down to ten adults and 8 youth.

II. Virginia Juvenile Community Crime Control Act (VJCCCA)

Mrs. Vines stated that work would begin Friday, February 21 on the next two-year plan with Barbara Ferrier, the Orange Court Services Supervisor. The plan is due to the state by April

15.

III. Michael's Gift

Mrs. Vines informed the commission members that the fund is still frozen at this time due to low funds. The next fundraiser will be a raffle, however, solid dates have not been confirmed at this time. Mrs. Vines also showed the members a plaque that was received by the Piedmont Youth Sports Association in appreciation of the support provided to some of its AAU 12U team that went to Nationals in the fall of 2013.

IV. School Age Child Care

The child care programs have been busy with different activities including a valentine fundraiser for the children in Gordon Barbour, Orange, Lightfoot, and Unionville Elementary Schools.

A discussion was held on the Locust Grove Child Care site to include attendance and recruiting efforts. While attendance is still down, the site director is holding a monthly "Parent's Night Out" to help publicize the program and encourage enrollment. In addition, a flyer was sent home to the student at Lightfoot and Unionville Elementary to see if families need child care and would be willing to have their children bused to the Locust Grove site.

V. CSA Audit

Mrs. Vines informed commission members that the preliminary report is back and while there are things we need to work on, the overall report was good. Our office will be working on getting necessary information to the auditor in order to complete the process. A final report will be out in late March.

VI. Breakfast Buddies

The office has been working on re-establishing the Breakfast Buddy Program at both Locust Grove Primary and Unionville Elementary. The coordinator training will be held Wednesday, February 19 for both new coordinators as referrals are already coming in from teachers and parent permission forms will begin going home. The program is still operating at Gordon Barbour and Orange Elementary.

VII. After Prom

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The 2014 Prom will be held Saturday, May 3 with the After-Prom event May 4 from midnight to 5:00 AM. Letters of support for this year's event have been mailed and donations are slowly starting to come in. We have also received a grant from Mary Washington Healthcare in the amount of \$600 to help with this year's event. The office staff will begin to solicit local businesses for prizes.

RE: NEW BUSINESS

RE: 2013 Legislative Dinner/Legislative Day 2014

Mrs. Vines discussed the events of the 2013 Joint Legislative Dinner and 2014 Legislative Day for the youth council membership. She presented the commission members with the letter that was sent by a group of the youth council to Delegate Scott and Senator Reeves in December in response to a request by Senator Reeves after the Joint Legislative Dinner. The group was formed to provide three ways they think mental health can be improved for the youth in the Commonwealth. (See attachment) Mrs. Vines also provided a copy of the response from Delegate Scott to the letter and a brief discussion followed regarding the events. (See attachment)

Mrs. Vines also informed the commission members of the hard work and dedication the youth council members put into the letter and how they handled the request and quick turn-around time in a serious and mature manner. Mrs. Irving also praised the behavior of the council members who attended the Joint Legislative Dinner.

RE: MEMBERSHIP None at this
time

RE: CLOSED SESSION No business for closed session at this time

RE: Adjournment The next meeting of the Youth Commission will be held, if needed, March 11th after the Garvis Huff Awards ceremony. There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted Alisha Vines – Office on Youth Director 02/19/2014