

## **YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD**

Minutes

September 19, 2009

**Members Present:** Gabriel Lopez, Holden McLemore, Caroline Jordan, Felicia Fotsch, Kyra Daniel, Kianna Daniel, Darnes ha Adams, and Austin Moorman.

**Members Absent:** Toyosi Oyelowo and Commissioner Margaret Stinnett.

**Staff Present:** Susan Simpson

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Staff liaison Susan Simpson @ 9:05 a.m.

### **MINUTES**

**ACTION:** Kianna Daniel made a motion to approve the minutes Darnesha Adams seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

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### **ITEMS FROM MEMBERS FOR THE AGENDA**

None.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

The first item of old business was the election of officers for the coming year. Ballots for Chair and Vice-Chair were prepared by Ms. Simpson. Ballots for Chair were passed out and Kyra Daniel was elected. Ballots for Vice-Chair were passed out and Felicia Fotsch was elected.

The second item of business was a discussion of the Youth Summit. Ms. Simpson reminded the group that the summit is being held in Greenville this year on Saturday, October 24 from 10-4 p.m. The theme is "Empowering Youth to Lead." Several members talked about their experiences attending the summit over the past two years and what they learned. They encouraged all to attend. Ms. Simpson stated that the Town would pay for their \$30 registration fee and would rent a van so that everyone to attend together. The following members will be attending: Kyra Daniel, Kianna Daniel, Darnesha Adams, Felicia Fotsch, Holden McLemore, and Gabriel Lopez. Austin Moorman and Toyosi Oyelowo can not attend. Caroline Jordan will contact Ms. Simpson by the end of next week to confirm her attendance.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

The first item of business was a brainstorming session concerning possible events for the Advisory board to host or participate in. Holden McLemore mentioned a “Mission Quake” event this coming weekend that is being sponsored by all area churches. Projects include: building ramps, painting, and a walk. Each member can contact the event coordinator and let them know if they want to help.

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Gabriel Lopez mentioned an “Out of the Darkness” walk being held on Saturday, November 14. The walk is to raise awareness for suicide prevention. The organizers will be hosting a Youth Forum on Friday, November 13 at 5 p.m. If the members would want to help with this event, they can contact the event coordinator. Gabriel Lopez shared that information.

Kianna Daniel asked the group to consider putting on an event that raised awareness of Genocide. Several members schools have shown a movie entitled “Invisible Children” and then raised money for the organization. Members suggested showing the movie at the Wake Forest Community House. Ms. Simpson stated the Community House might not be big enough depending on how many they hoped to have. She mentioned the amphitheater at E. Carroll Joyner Park as a possible site. Gabriel Lopez asked the members how did it help youth in Wake Forest? She brought up the rules that members agreed to last month. Members thought that it would raise awareness of global problems with teenagers in our community. Ms. Lopez asked again how that benefits youth here in Wake Forest. Ms. Simpson asked if many of their schools had already participated in this, why would the group want to duplicate the event. Felicia Fotsch talked about a report that she had done on sexual exploitation and how much she learned from this. She thought raising the youth awareness of problems was always a good idea. Ms. Simpson asked them to consider the benefits of this type of program. Ms. Simpson mentioned several projects that the group could be involved in such as: the Centennial gala, the grand opening of E. Carroll Joyner Park, and a concert in the spring at Joyner Park. The group will continue to flesh out what they want to be involved in.

The next item of business was a request from the DRC (Downtown Revitalization Corporation) for members to assist with the “Pictures with Santa” program. The group stated if they helped with the Centennial gala, they could not work both. They will keep it in mind.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Simpson, Secretary

Kyra Daniel, Chairperson