

## **YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD**

Minutes

August 15, 2009

**Members Present:** Gabriel Lopez, Darnesha Adams, Kiana Daniel, Kyra Daniel, Holden McLemore, Austin Mooman, Toyosi Oyelowo, and Commissioner Margaret Stinnett.

**Members Absent:** Caroline Jordan and Felicia Fotsch.

**Staff Present:** Susan Simpson

**Guests:** Allison Neptune

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Staff liaison Susan Simpson @ 9:10 a.m.

### **MINUTES**

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

## **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Ms. Simpson welcomed all the members and congratulated them on their appointments to the Youth board. She asked each member to introduce themselves and to tell what school they attend, activities they are involved in and their hobbies or anything else they wanted to share. Each member had a chance to speak.

## **BY-LAWS/ PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE/ GROUND RULES**

Ms. Simpson stated that a copy of the by-laws for the board was included in each members notebook for the board. It mainly spells out meetings, duties of officers, and other such matters. She also stated that she had developed a sheet for parliamentary procedure for running meeting and, making motions. She went over the information. Ground rules were also discussed. One rule mentioned members not bringing up school or church projects and then the board getting sidetracked on these items. Kyra Daniel and Gabriel Lopez asked about not mentioning them in the meetings. Ms. Simpson and Commissioner Stinnett said that the purpose of the Youth board was to advise the Town Board on matters of interest to high school students as it related to government. Ms. Simpson said that if members wanted to email each other and mention those projects and solicit volunteers that was fine, but asked that they not spend meeting time on these issues. The group agreed to the ground rules.

## **ITEMS FOR AGENDA FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

None.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

The only item of old business was the meeting schedule for the coming year. Ms. Simpson passed out the schedule for the year. Gabriel Lopez said that it is very important for all members to attend each meeting so that plans for the year can be made.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

The first item of business is the election of officers. The board will have a Chair and Vice-Chair for the year and Ms. Simpson will serve as the Secretary. After some discussion about getting to know each other and members having a chance to think about serving in one of those capacities, it was decided that members would email Ms. Simpson between now and the next meeting if they wanted to be considered for election to one of the two offices. Ms. Simpson will prepare a ballot and the elections will be held September 19<sup>th</sup>.

The next item of business was the NCLM Youth Summit. Ms. Simpson informed the board that the North Carolina League of Municipalities hosted an annual conference each year for elected officials and municipal employees. This year the conference is in Greenville, N.C. Along with the conference is a Youth Summit for members of youth boards. This year the theme is "The Power of Youth Advocacy - Empowering Youth to Lead." The summit is on Saturday, October 24 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. The cost is \$30 for registration and lunch. Ms. Simpson said that the Town will pay for any members registration and will also rent a van for transportation. Kyra Daniel, Gabriel Lopez, and Darnesha Adams all stated that they had a great time at the conference last year in Charlotte. It was on technology and cyberspace and they learned a lot and meet members of other boards and heard what they were doing in their respective communities. Each encouraged all the members to attend. Ms. Simpson said that she would need to know a count by the September meeting.

The last item was a brainstorming session about potential projects, events, activities for the board to be involved in during the year. Kyra Daniel mentioned a "College Fair" for juniors and seniors. Darnesha Adams mentioned workshops on Teen Pregnancy and Domestic Abuse. Kianna Daniel mentioned an "Olympics" fun day between the schools. Ms. Simpson mentioned some possible Town-wide activities that the board come participate in: Good Neighbor Day, the Youth Advisory Board

grand opening of E. Carroll Joyner Park, a possible concert for teens at the new Joyner Park amphitheater, and the remainder of the Centennial events. Commissioner Stinnett reminded the board that part of their task as a board member is to help other teens be involved in Town activities and in their government. She encouraged them to think about these things: If youth activities are missing, what are your recommendations?; Is there issues with parking at the schools and what can the youth do to take the lead in solutions?; and if teens are involved in “Facebook” then how can the board encourage the Town to participate? Ms. Simpson said that the Town does have a Facebook page and that maybe Bill Crabtree, Public Information Officer, can come and speak to the group about reaching teens through Facebook.

Ms. Simpson reminded the members that they have three assignments before the next meeting: 1) decide if they want to attend the Youth Summit; 2) come with a list of two events/projects to recommend the board sponsor or participate in this year; and 3) decide if they want to be considered to hold on of the two officer positions.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Simpson, Secretary

Chairman