

MINUTES  
REGULAR YOUTH ADVISORY SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY OF NICEVILLE, FLORIDA  
SEPTEMBER 8, 2015

The Niceville Youth Advisory Council met in regular session at 6:00 PM, September 8, 2015 in the City of Niceville Council Chambers, 208 N Partin Drive. All members were present except for Caroline Schreck and Jonathan Toledo. Also present was Youth Council Advisor, Councilman Nodjomian and Dan Doucet, City Clerk. Chairman Jason Nodjomian led the Pledge of Allegiance and called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting, August 11, 2015

Jason Nodjomian asked for a motion to approve the August 11, 2015 minutes. Christine Marocchini moved approval. Annie-James Walsh-seconded. No one spoke for or against. Council Vote: Marocchini-yes; Walsh-yes; Nodjomian-yes. Motion Passed

Chairman Nodjomian advised that we have new member joining us tonight. He welcomed and introduced Rebecca Corallo to the Executive Board members. He advised that he is the Chairman and Christine is the Vice-Chairman. He stated that Caroline Schreck and Jonathan Toledo were not present tonight. He also stated that Ronnell Donahoo, is also a member and is not present. Rebecca stated that she was pleased to be a member of the Youth Council and stated that she knows Katrina Sherwin and Alexis Sherwin who were present tonight. Discussion followed.

#### Old Business:

Tutoring Project - Update. Caroline Schreck sent an e-mail today with an update on the Tutoring Project. She stated that she had already met with Dr. Richardson, who could not aid much due to confidentiality laws. Dr Richardson suggested talking to Mr Gore about approaching the subject heads for volunteers. The only way to get the names of these volunteers is if they approached us, any other way would be illegal. She also mentioned that Mrs. Barton runs a math tutoring system during the course of the year, and maybe we could reach out to those volunteer tutors. She apologized again for her absence, but unfortunately there is not a way for her to work around band. Councilman Nodjomian stated that we'll have to get the word out in some fashion and let the volunteers contact us. Jason stated that Caroline was the lead on this project. There was a decision made to pass the lead to Annie-James and Christine because of her schedule involving band that prevented her from attending very often. Councilman Nodjomian stated to Rebecca that this project is not being planned for the YC membership to be the tutors. We are just working to facilitate the process, of course, if some of you wind up being a tutor it will be

fine. The real goal of the youth council is to get the program off the ground. Discussion centered around using soar announcements and spread the road to key club members, etc. Councilman Nodjomian stated that once you get a good slate of names to become tutors, then you'll have to go after the students who need the tutoring. Discussion followed. A general consensus was to advertise to get it going. Councilman Nodjomian stated that once you pick a date and location that is the Sunshine part of it. You will be able to discuss among yourselves which is mostly details. Councilman Nodjomian asked if anyone would be willing to meet with Mr Gore? Christine stated she plans to meet with him during 6<sup>th</sup> period. Councilman Nodjomian stated this program is not only for Niceville, High School, it's Rocky Bayou Christian School, and Ruckle Middle School as well.

### **Options for a Mock Trial:**

Katrina stated it was necessary to leave soon and asked if it was possible to skip ahead to discuss this program. She stated that she has been very busy and wasn't able to do much research on the subject. Councilman Nodjomian stated that during our last regular meeting our City Attorney Dixie Powell stated that he is a member of a bar association and part of their training especially for young lawyers is to conduct a mock trial typically once a year in January or February. He recommended that someone coordinate with him regarding the details. Mr Doucet provided Katrina with his contact information.

New Business:

### **Membership Drive:**

Tabled for now since Jonathan is not here to provide an update.

### **Presidential Election Program:**

Katrina thought it would be a good idea to have this as a project mostly from an awareness standpoint. Councilman Nodjomian felt it was good timing which is excellent project aimed directly at civics. You could conduct a "mock" candidate forum at say a middle school. Each of you could pick a candidate learn their platforms and conduct a debate regarding the election process. Especially since this goes around only every four years. You have a civic responsibility to be aware of the issues and vote on them. Councilman Nodjomian stated you have to set a schedule. He stated for example we have our tutoring program to get up and running, Clean up in November. Our candidate forum in January/February, He stated our mock trial may just be advertising for it and providing for transportation to Pensacola. Etc. Katrina stated she will work on a draft for review outlining the Presidential Candidate Process. She stated she and her sister will work on it.

Mr. Earnest Johnson, a visitor in the audience stated that the members of the youth council are the next generation. He recommended that when you put together your candidate forum make sure you get to know your candidate. What are their policies/views on key subjects What do they stand for? You need to know their background, character, and other key issues such as immigration, welfare, etc. Discussion followed.

**General Plans for next Community Clean-up Project:**

Councilman Nodjomian recommended drafting a letter requesting sponsors in support of the clean-up project. He stated the letter should state who we are and what we are about to include what we are planning to do to include the date of the event, and ask for their support to help defray the cost of the cleanup.

**Advertising:**

Councilman Nodjomian recommended to prepare a flyer to attract volunteers to help with clean-up. We already have a way to obtain garbage bags, gloves; and a grill to include manpower from Public works. Discussion followed:

Mr Doucet recommended we update the Photos's of our executive council that are on our web site. He advised that he will contact Mr Craig Garrison to take a picture of our new executive members. Councilman Nodjomian recommended that we show up 30 minutes early at our next meeting on October 13, 2015 to have the pictures taken.

**Youth Council Shirts and Hats:**

Councilman Nodjomian felt that our total membership needs to be fitted for new polos and hats. Mr Doucet provided a sample and stated that the City Manager handles the ordering of the shirts and hats.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM

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CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

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RECORDING SECRETARY