

MINUTES
REGULAR YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF NICEVILLE, FLORIDA
AUGUST 24, 2017

The Niceville Youth Advisory Council met in regular session at 6:00 PM, August 24, 2017 in the City of Niceville Council Chambers, 208 N Partin Drive. All members were present. Also present was Youth Council Advisor, Councilman Nodjomian and Dan Doucet, City Clerk. Chairman Katie Lightfoot led the Pledge of Allegiance and called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Council Meeting, May 16, 2017

Katie Lightfoot asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Korey Arsenault moved to approve the minutes. Mariah McClaren seconded. Council Vote: Lightfoot-yes; McClaren-yes; Arsenault-yes; Abigail O’Laughlin-yes; Hannah Sjostrom-yes. Motion passed

New Business:

Roberts Rules of Order - Update

Councilman Nodjomian stated that the Youth Council will use Roberts Rules of Order as a guide to conduct their meetings. He advised this book of rules is widely used by a variety of governmental agencies on how to conduct their public hearings. He stated the procedures will mirror the way our city council operates. Discussion followed.

Sunshine Law - Update

Councilman Nodjomian stated that the Sunshine law requires that meetings of boards or commissions must be open to the public; reasonable notice of such meetings must be given, and minutes of the meeting must be taken.

What is the Sunshine Law?

Florida’s Government in the Sunshine law provides a right of access to governmental proceedings at both the state and local levels. It applies to any gathering of two or more members of the same board to discuss some matter which will foreseeable come before the board for action in the foreseeable future. He stated there is also a constitutionally guaranteed right of access.

Virtually all state and local collegial public bodies are covered by the open meeting requirements of the law.

☐ **What are the requirements of the Sunshine Law?**

The Sunshine law requires that meetings of boards or commissions must be open to the public; reasonable notice of such meetings must be given, and minutes of the meeting must be taken.

- What agencies are covered under the Sunshine Law?

The Government in the Sunshine Law applies to any board of commission of any state agency or authority or of any agency or authority of any county, municipal corporation or political subdivision.

- What qualifies as a meeting?

The Sunshine law applies to all discussion or deliberations as well as the formal action taken by a board or commission. The law, in essence is applicable to any gathering, whether formal or casual, of two or more members of the same board or commission to discuss some matter on which foreseeable action will be taken by the public board or commission. There is no requirement that a quorum be present for a meeting to be covered under the law. Councilman Nodjomian acknowledged that the YAC are friends and will see one another on a regular basis which is fine. He cautioned they must be careful to not discuss matters such as tutoring plans, etc unless you are in a public setting like this room.

- Can two members of a public board attend social functions together?

Members of a public board are not prohibited under the Sunshine law from meeting together socially, provided that matters which may come before the board are not discussed at such gatherings. Councilman Nodjomian stated that the Mayor is present at our meeting. He is not here as the Mayor for this meeting. I would love to talk to him about City business, however, I will have to wait until that gavel falls at 7:00 PM to do it correctly and comply with the Sunshine Law. So, you have to be careful which is very important. He stated you have done some great projects in the City and you can be proud of those accomplishments. However, the real purpose of the Youth Council is to represent the youth population of the City and more importantly to learn about local government. He stated that someday you will be in a position to serve on the regular council and you will be better prepared to take over that role because of your exposure as a Youth Council member.

Recruiting ideas to increase membership - Update

Discussion centered on appointing specific team members to be responsible as follows: Mariah agreed to take the lead for recruiting new members. Abigail - social media and flyer/w logo. Korey - Leadership; Katie - Key Club; Mariah - NHS; Hannah - Soar and guidance council. Discussion followed.

New Charity Drive - Update

A consensus was reached to address this during our next regular meeting.

There being no further business The meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.

CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK