



Neighborhood and Family Services Commission Meeting
Avondale Civic Center, 11465 West Civic Center Drive, Council Chambers
Wednesday, February 27, 2019 6:00 p.m.
Summary of Action

Commission Members in Attendance

Fabian Prado, Chair
Oliver Morrison, Vice Chair
Glenn Coleman
David Iwanski
Irene Marquez
John Raeder
Jeffrey Rich
Michelle McMullen, Alternate

Commission Members Unexcused

Lisa Osborne
Maureen Wilson, Alternate

Commission Members Excused

Wendy Dormer
Delores Robinson
Melissa Valdez

City Staff and Guests in Attendance

Chris Lopez, NFS Director
Dave Vaca, Senior Budget Analyst
Irma Gonzales, Budget Manager
Marcella Carrillo, City Clerk
Paula Swenson, Administrative Assistant

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| 1. | Call to Order | 6:03 PM |
| 2. | Review and Approval of the November 28, 2018 and December 18, 2018 | Approved |
| 3. | Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Board By-Laws | Approved |
| 4. | Youth Services and Community Engagement Division Update | Discussed |

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| 5. | Future Agenda Items | Discussed |
| 6. | Announcements | Discussed |
| 7. | Call to the Public | None |
| 8. | Adjournment | 7:07 PM |



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Wednesday, February 27, 2019 6:00 p.m.
MEETING MINUTES

Commission Members in Attendance: Chair Fabian Prado, Vice Chair Oliver Morrison, Glenn Coleman, David Iwanski, John Raeder, Jeffrey Rich, Michelle McMullen, Irene Marquez

Commission Members Unexcused: Maureen Wilson, Lisa Osborne

Commission Members Excused: Wendy Dormer, Delores Robinson, Melissa Valdez

City Staff and Guests in Attendance: NFS Director Chris Lopez, Senior Budget Analyst Dave Vaca, Budget Manager Irma Gonzalez, Community Engagement Manager Donna Gardner, City Clerk Marcella Carrillo, Administrative Assistant Paula Swenson

1. Call to Order

The Neighborhood and Family Services Commission meeting was called to order by Chairperson Prado at 6:03 p.m.

2. Review and Approval of the November 28, 2018 and December 18, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Coleman made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Mr. Raeder seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously by Members present.

Introductions new members present at the meeting: Regular Member Jeffrey Rich and Alternate Member Michelle McMullen.

3. Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Board By-Laws

Mr. Vaca discussed CIP and what it means to focus on large projects such as streets, infrastructure, buildings, parks, etc. One of the newer projects relevant to the Neighborhood and Family Services Department is the new Resource and Senior Center. Mr. Vaca and Ms. Carrillo requested two members from the Commission volunteer to serve on the CIP board. Ms. Carrillo distributed the new CIP bylaws. The CIP Board meets bi-annually. The next meeting will be held in March and another in June for the fiscal year 2020 process. Mr. Iwanski stated that this Board is key to the City and Council. Mr. Prado inquired the Commission for interest. Mr. Iwanski and Mr. Rich volunteered to participate. Ms. Vasquez made a motion for Mr. Iwanski to serve as a regular member and Mr. Rich as an alternate. Mr. Coleman seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by Members present.

4. Youth Services and Community Engagement Division Update

Ms. Gardner stated that the Avondale Youth Advisory Committee (AYAC) mission is to develop and foster leadership and social responsibility among the youth of Avondale through program innovation, community involvement and civic engagement. AYAC focuses on youth involvement, positive youth actions and increasing quality of life options among other goals. They engage in a variety of meaningful leadership development and civic engagement opportunities. Currently, there are 16 members: six from Agua Fria High School, eight from Westview High School and two from La Joya High School. Membership is capped at 19. Ms. Gardner explained that more than 700 volunteer service hours has

occurred from AYAC's participation in the Out & About event series, Make a Difference Day, Teen Summit, Global Youth Service Day, and other service projects geared towards supporting the community. AYAC fundraises at various events and receives sponsorships and donations. The next fundraising event will be at Chipolte on Litchfield Road in Goodyear, where 33% of the profits will go towards future AYAC events. Avondale partners with Kids at Hope for the Time Traveler Summit; and focuses on the four future destinations of home & family, hobbies & recreations, education & career and community & service. The cultural framework for Kids at Hope is that all kids succeed, no exceptions. The school spirit holiday food drive is an event where AYAC teams with local schools to address the increased demand and insufficient resources of local food banks. To-date, we've engaged five schools for over 10 years, and 129,992 pounds of non-perishable food has been collected for distributions. Global Youth Service Day is a national recognized service day for youth groups, schools and agencies to work together to raise awareness about the environment and the value of the Tres Rios Wetlands area. Leadership Development is a venue for youth to have exposure to government processes. This allows students to experience future government interests by attending the League of Arizona Towns and Cities, Governor's Youth Leadership Day, Kids at Hope events, and the National League of Cities Congressional City Conference in Washington, D.C. The Youth Workforce Development program, formerly known as Next STEP, has been renamed as AviTEMP. TEMP stands for Teen Employment Mentorship Program. Youth engage in a paid work experience; a week of training and six weeks on the job. The program is supported by Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. The City provides a unique opportunity with Kids at Hope for a half day Module 1 training of basics in learning their philosophy: all kids are capable of success, no exceptions. The module II training is more in-depth with train-the-trainer practices. We team up for Youth Development Master's Institute and Time Travelers Summit. Community Engagement encourages AYAC to participate in Historic Avondale clean-ups in the Fall and Spring. Global Youth Service Day is April 13th; Make a Difference Day is on October 26, 2019. Last year we painted six homes for disabled, elderly and low-income residents. Volunteer Avondale, www.AvondalAZ.gov/VolunteerAvondale, is a way for us to search for opportunities that fit interests and schedules of volunteers who want to share unique talents with a passion for serving others. We are able to provide data and reporting for school project. The Tool Box Program provides ways to clean up a neighborhood street or specific area. We provide landscaping and painting tools, bottled water, trash bags, gloves, etc. It's a way for neighbors to help neighbors, as well as for companies to do service projects. We can pull data and reporting to share information for school projects. The Avondale Education Community Engagement Initiative (AECE) includes AmeriCorps VISTA. Currently, there are six VISTA members committed to the city in a full-time position. This is a year-long commitment to the mission of bringing individuals and communities out of poverty. They focus on building capacities of organizations to fight illiteracy, improve health services, foster economic development, and otherwise assist low-income communities. Mr. Prado inquired how to request use of the Tool Box Program. Ms. Gardner stated that an email works for interest. Forms are sent out to sign up through the portal when requested. The program is available on weekends and to anyone interested (with proper forms in place). It is not just for Avondale residents. Some projects require certain age groups. We work with the resident who wants to lead the project. Ms. McMullen inquired if Module 1 is specifically for Kids at Hope training. Ms. Gardner stated that Module 1 is an intro to the Kids at Hope philosophy. The secondary Module II is more extensive with train-the-trainer practices. Mr. Iwanski inquired if we were familiar with Leadership West. Mr. Raeder stated that Avondale and Goodyear have been working together to have experiences with the Commission. Mr. Raeder stated that they met with Council Member Hess to put together a Leadership West Summit event. Mr. Iwanski stated that the AZ Water Association works closely with WESTMEC for opportunities with Water/Wastewater Operator careers. Ms. Gardner stated that we've placed teens at the MOSC and the Wolfe Treatment Center. Mr. Coleman inquired if recruitment practices were in place for more involvement. Ms. Gardner stated that we table events at the schools and Resource Fairs. We build partnerships with local organizations to let them know about the opportunities. We promote with Make A Difference Day, Police Explorers, Facebook, Instagram, and Global Youth Services Day. We are limited to 19 members on the Youth Advisory

Commission. However, other youth can attend events or meetings to observe. Mr. Coleman inquired if we impact the community. Ms. Gardner stated that this provides positive influences and they share with other teens. Many times, AYAC Members act as the venue for other teens to see. Many of our youth come back and serve in other capacities. Mr. Coleman inquired if we are impacting Avondale specifically. Mr. Lopez stated that the food drive provides to the greater southwest community borders. Ms. Gardner stated that AYAC was invited by the Center for the Future of AZ to apply to Democraseed. This was a lengthy process and required presentations on different topics. We were selected to identify a project in our community that isn't being addressed. Youth decided to work with school staff and principals on recycling practices and initiatives. Mr. Iwanski stated that the AZ Water Association has a variety of ways to participate in programs. The association has been around 91 years and encourages leadership and civic involvement. Not just in terms of professional, but also in social and community paths. Mr. Iwanski and Mr. Coleman expressed concerns with the limitations to 19 with AYAC membership and would be interested in seeing if there are ways to expand for other students to participate. Mr. Lopez stated that AYAC is limited according to the bylaws. AYAC serves as an advisory body. We do not limit experiences to just AYAC members. Logistics for voting authority indicates that 19 is the number. Mr. Iwanski stated that if there's a way to figure out a process where others can be involved when they want to be, we shouldn't miss out on the opportunity. Mr. Prado stated that he personally served on AYAC and it allowed him to also participate in the Next STEP program, and now he's here on the NFS Commission. The impact made on the communities cannot always be measured as it is multi-faceted. Mr. Prado stated that the work with AYAC opened many doors for him. Mr. Lopez stated that we always advocate for more with youth services. We appreciate your passion for expansion.

5. Future Agenda Items:

Mr. Lopez stated that June will include a presentation on water resources and drought concerns in our state, along with the Superfund. Also, Neighborhood Revitalization will bring updates on revitalization efforts in the historic areas of Avondale.

6. Announcements

Mr. Lopez announced the STEAM event by Avondale Public Libraries. The event takes place on Wednesday, March 6 at Civic Center library, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. For more information, please call 623.333.2665 or visit the library website.

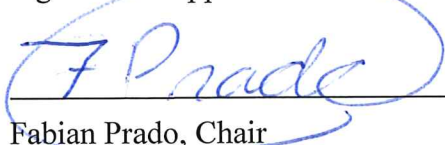
7. Call to the Public

None

8. Adjournment

Ms. Marquez made a motion to adjourn; the motion was seconded by Mr. Morrison. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Signature of approval:



Fabian Prado, Chair

Next meeting, 6:00 p.m. – Avondale City Hall – June 26, 2019