

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF FLORENCE YOUTH COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2019 AT 6:00 P.M. IN RUGGLES ROOM 1, LOCATED AT 778 N. MAIN STREET, FLORENCE, AZ.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Vasquez called the meeting to order at 6:06 P.M.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Cara Roberts, Dolores "Lolita" Vasquez, Grace "Kadin" Diorio and Hannah Earl
Absent: Kendra Johnson

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. OLD BUSINESS

a. Discussion/Approval/Disapproval of nomination and election of Commission Vice-Chair.

Following a self-nomination from Commissioner Diorio, members discussed if this vote should wait until next meeting to act upon. Comments were based upon the possibility that alternate member Jayden McMillin may become a regular commission member by the next regular meeting in May. The nomination died without a second.

On a motion by Commissioner Roberts, seconded by Commissioner Diorio, and carried (4-0) to table item 4a. to the May 16, 2019 meeting.

b. Discussion/Approval/Disapproval of Youth Commission Mission Statement.

After a short discussion and consideration of other youth commission mission statements, Staff Liaison Nixon suggested tabling this to the next meeting. He also suggested that members individually send their mission statement preferences to him prior to the next meeting and he will include those with the May 16th agenda. This prior knowledge of sample mission statements is likely to help the commission select its own mission statement.

On a motion by Commissioner Diorio, seconded by Commissioner Roberts and carried (4-0) to table item 4b. to the May 16, 2019 meeting.

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. Discussion/Approval/Disapproval of the March 28, 2019 meeting minutes.

On a motion by Commissioner Earl, seconded by Commissioner Diorio, and carried (4-0) to approve the March 28, 2019 Meeting minutes with the spelling correction of Chair Vasquez's name from Vasequez to Vasquez.

a. Discussion of potential new Youth Programs, including a film festival and arts and culture programming.

A discussion ensued amongst the members about the possibility of teaming up with Florence High School groups/clubs to help develop arts and culture workshops along with a film festival. Chair Vasquez stated she spoke with FHS principal Toby Haugen about hosting a film festival. It was suggested to involve the FHS Film &TV Club in such an endeavor. Public representative Ruth Harrison suggested that the commission research and develop suggestions on a type(s) of film festival to present for youth and teens.

b. Discussion Youth Issues: Text-Talk-Act, vaping/smoking and bullying.

Commission members recalled that there is an online app called Text-Talk-Act which allows teens to access and receive advice on how to handle a variety of issues. The commission was open to developing its own local version of Text-Talk-Act. The discussion then led to the status of the high school band. Ruth Harrison asked if there is a high school orchestra to which Commissioner Kadin replied there is not.

c. Discussion/Approval/Disapproval to request a work session with Town Council.

Chair Vasquez shared with all, the leadership training she received on April 12th through the Youth Empowerment Partners. Many topics of value to teens were discussed and questions arose of how to arrange for a work session with the Town Council. Councilmember Larsen suggested the members decide which specific issues they wish to discuss with the Town Council. Staff Liaison Nixon said he would begin to make the arrangements for a meeting, if the commission so desired.

On motion of Commissioner Diorio, seconded by Commissioner Roberts, and carried (4-0) to request a work session with Town Council.

a. Discussion/Approval/Disapproval to cancel the June 20, 2019 and/or July 18, 2019 regular meetings.

Staff Liaison Nixon suggested to the commission to consider canceling one or both meetings since the June meeting is during summer break and the July meeting is scheduled immediately after the first day of school.

On motion of Commissioner Roberts, seconded by Commissioner Diorio, and carried (4-0) to cancel only the June 20, 2019 meeting.

6. CALL TO THE PUBLIC/BOARD RESPONSE

Call to the Public for Comment is limited to issues within the jurisdiction of the Town of Florence Youth Commission. Individual commission members may respond to criticism made by those commenting, may ask the staff liaison to review a matter raised, or may ask that a matter be placed on future agenda.

Ruth Harrison expressed disappointment that the Youth Commission meeting was scheduled at the same time as another Town meeting: the joint meeting of the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Parks Advisory Board regarding an update of the area's Active Transportation Plan. She urged coordination of future meetings to avoid conflict so citizens would not have to choose which meeting to attend.

7. CALL TO THE COMMISSION- CURRENT EVENTS ONLY

Chair Vasquez praised the leadership training speakers she heard on April 12th, especially about the effects of consuming alcohol and driving.

8. ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Commissioner Roberts, seconded by Commissioner Diorio, and carried (4-0) to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 p.m.

Approved:



Dolores "Lolita" Vasquez, Chair