Youth Development Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes January 17th, 2024

5pm, GOB Room 306

Present

Amber Green

Ricky Pollitt

Alicia Miller

Thashana McKinney

Mikayla Somers

Sophia Oberton

Laura Toner

Amy Steller

Tamyra Foreman

Nakyah Miles

Luc Angelot

Tara O’Barsky

David Thompson

Kenisha Le’Cole

Briana Curtis

Siddharth Ghosh

Logan Dillon- City of Salisbury Liaison

* Logan opened the meeting and welcomed attendees. She distributed copies of the meeting agenda to attendees
* Ricky asked what some of the YSAC initiatives are
* Amber mentioned who we should bring onto the committee as well as the youth master plan
	+ Committee begun around time of community center(s), discussed how COVID disrupted original meeting plans, restructuring and starting from “scratch”
	+ Discussed the importance of appointing chair and vice-chair members and their expectations
	+ TRUTH Committee
* Kenisha and Sidd nominated themselves for Chair
* Group motioned on voting for Chair and decided to vote on vice-chair next meeting
	+ Kenisha: loves the youth, big on mental health, diversity to provide to the community, comfortable space, tackle it as a team, provide them a safe space, starting from the youth to provide them opportunities to become
	+ Sidd: wants to provide a youth voice, youth environmental active summit, boundless community garden, newton garden, robotics team (elementary), the youth need future guidance, wants to organize the YDAC (attendance, communications, the members and what they can provide), possible legal changes made a/n
	+ Briana: MCAC, director of church, bring organization, set ideas in the place and move forward, connect with systems already in place (youth groups), have them in a good place from the start, focus on foster kids, discuss guidelines of YDAC, bring knowledge to the youth
* Amber suggested we take time to process what all 3 candidates said and vote for Chair at the end of meeting after questions for each nomination; group agreed.

**Open Discussion**

* Kenisha wants to know what there is for youth in the community; they are “bored”. Wants to find something easily accessible, even free, for single mothers and youth to keep them off the street
* Alicia suggested we come up with a list of areas/facilities that are easily accessible for youth and their families
	+ Amber gave guidance on how we can make this possible on the city website for the public to see
* Questions were asked about a YDAC newsletter; Amber gave more insight on the community relations newsletter; we all share the newsletter to get the word out to the public
* 1st project: Putting together a list of events, activities and facilities for youth to visit
	+ Group acknowledge the challenge of youth transportations, legality with schools and the community
* Sophie shares her own experience with her son and the struggle of finding stuff for your child to do within the community and **safe** transportation; figure out the HOW of getting to different events
	+ They need opportunities to explore activities to figure out what they like to do
* Transportation: Kid-Car-Go app, City trolley, local cab companies with open accounts
* Ricky suggested coming up with events we can bring to the kids so they aren’t having to rely on transportation to attend
	+ Group discussed the barriers and challenges of hosting events: different ages, weather, transportation, etc.
* Briana asked what we can do today to really get moving forward on all these great ideas
* Group discussed the social media policy and how posts must go through City of Salisbury page; further discussion to be had; Community Relations social media should be looked at as an asset verses a barrier
* Alicia suggested we create a spreadsheet to combined all catalog information; group asked if we could send a google form instead
	+ Briana offered to create the google form; suggested we start with different subjects and find events/activities based on those categories
	+ Creating subcategories; a few members work together on specific subjects
	+ Starting broad and apply cost, location and age range
	+ Youth age range needs to be discussed
* Laura brought up city meeting tonight; asked members to complete the survey; link was sent via email
* Amber asked if we can discuss the Youth Master Plan at the next meeting; focusing in emerging adults
* Amber also brought up the idea of hybrid meetings and allowing others to use the link to attend the meeting since we are open meetings to the public
* Alicia motioned for the catalog project; group seconded it
* Chair and Vice-Chair voting was motioned to be moved to the next meeting on 2/21/2024

Next Meeting: February 21st, 2024