

The Brighton Youth Commission  
Formal Meeting Minutes  
February 4th, 2021

Absences-

Excused: Emmanuel Chaparro, Esmi Chaparro, Jake Halverson, Jayelin Adame, Josie Martinez, Logan Flanagan, Jorie Burns

Unexcused: Elena Marraudino, Kylee Versteegt, Tania Hernandez, Truman Hodge

Business-

1. Boards and Commissions Update
  - a. SD27J Update
    - The new STEAM school in Reunion is going through another round of their hiring process. They are on track to open to a freshman class in the fall of 2021.
    - The 27J school district is currently open enrollment, and applications are now open. If you wish to attend a school that is not your “home” school, you are welcome to apply.
    - Next year, the school district plans to move to a quarter system with students taking up to four classes in one quarter. This is a schedule planned around the possibility of having to go back to remote learning. This new schedule also allows for students to finish more classes within a year, earning them more credits for their graduation requirement.
    - If students still desire to take classes remotely next year, they will do it through the virtual academy that the district is still working on putting together.
    - The graduation rate has gone up, while the dropout rate has gone down. Our graduation rate is higher than the state average!
    - The SAT is coming up in April. There is an optional essay portion of the test, if you wish to take it, reach out to your school office or counselor(s).
    - Mayors and Commissioners Youth Awards: nominate an individual between 6th and 12th grade who you think has overcome adversity. Contact Abby Martinez for more information. The deadline to submit is February 12th, but it is a little flexible.
  - b. City Council Update
    - City Council approved a 9-0 vote to permit miniature goats on personal properties. This pilot program will be for a two-year period, with 10 permits offered at a time. In order to get a permit, you must enter the program lottery (by February 28th).
    - Councilmembers Tim Watts and Clint Blackhurst are hoping to get the chance to have at least one youth commissioner sit on the panel for recruitment interviews.
    - Brighton is one of the only cities in Adams County that does not allow marijuana dispensaries. City staff is currently researching the pros and cons of allowing them in our city. Council is considering the benefits/consequences of placing a special tax on marijuana sales- the tax cannot go through unless voted on by the people.
    - City Council members encourage us to ask questions and to reach out. They are here to help us in any way they can!
  - c. Parks and Recreation
    - Recently had their chairman (re)elections

- Working on tree planting projects as well as cleaning projects at the cemetery.
  - The Brighton Oasis Family Aquatic Park plans to open this summer.
  - The Rec Center is slowly going back to regular capacities and activities.
- d. Legacy Foundation
- Have gone over the financial report
  - Are currently looking for a chair and vice-chair
- e. Planning Commission
- Added an amendment for zone change by the fire station (near the water tower) to allow for more retail businesses
- f. Historic Preservation
- Social media presence is gradually expanding- are trying to get more people to visit their museums.
  - The barbershop off of 113 E. Bridge Street will be getting a new sign to display soon by the sign certificate of appropriateness. They are currently waiting for the COA to meet the requirements for the design in downtown Brighton.
- g. Arts and Culture
- Are discussing the placement of a new murale in Founders Plaza, however, they are having a difficult time getting in contact with Wells Fargo. The entire project may not be done until 2022.
  - Have begun to discuss the budget for this year's Image Summit.
- h. Front Range Young Leaders Collab
- Their next meeting is next week.
  - This is a group of 12-20 youth across front range, currently connecting with the western slope sister committee.
  - Members are split into groups that focus on different topics of interests. These topics are then organized into a project that serves the residents in our community. Dahaan and Alijah are focusing on social injustice and Kirby is focusing on teen homelessness.

## 2. Competition Update

- After some miscommunication, a winner for the gingerbread village competition has been selected.
- Team Mando! Congratulations. Abby will get in contact with you all for your prize.

## 3. Adult Commissioner Recruitment

- Out of all applicants, only one is eligible to serve as an adult commissioner.
- Should we extend the deadline? Should we interview this applicant right away? Youth Commissioners discussed what they thought was best moving forward from here.

## 4. Parent Meeting

- A YOCCB and BYC parent meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 16th from 5:30-6:30PM. Let Tawnya, Abby, or Rachel know if you know you/your parents will not be attending as soon as possible.

#### 5. Strengthsfinder Test

- Make sure to check the BYC group on Facebook and comment on Tawnya's post about the strengthsfinder test. We are trying to get all commissioners to take the test and know their strengths.

#### 6. Card Decorating Pick Up

- Anythink Library would like 1,000 cards to be donated to Project Angel Heart, a non-profit organization that helps people with life threatening disabilities/illnesses.
- The BYC has expressed interest in helping with these cards. On Thursday, February 11th, from 2-5PM there will be a card kit pickup for commissioners.

#### 7. Hours Reporting

- It is important that we get an accurate representation of your time spent with the Youth Commission. Let your officer know of any hours you've made up from missed meetings so we can update your attendance records! If you are unsure of how to make up your hours, contact your officer.

#### 8. The National League of Cities: Congressional City Conference (NLC CCC)

- NLC CCC will be held virtually this year, in March.
- This conference focuses on improvements on the federal level (rather than a local level like the city summit).
- Applications are open! Contact Giana for more information.

#### 9. Activity

- Activity was not completed- we ran out of time.

#### 10. Tawnya's Idea

- Youth Commissioners (and others) could form a committee that promotes young entrepreneurship and business management. The committee could host an arts and crafts event where individuals can sell their products within the community.
- Commissioners interested: Dahaan, Diana, Nicole, Giana, Sophia, Ashley C, Cynthia, Andrea