

■ST. CHARLES YOUTH COMMISSION■

Monday, May 3, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

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| D. Clavelli – Youth Commissioner, Treasurer* | J. Burden & M. Kramer, STC PD* |
| J. Diorio – Youth Commissioner | E. Mahan, STC PD |
| C. Hime – Youth Commissioner | J. Keegan, Chief of Police |
| D. Kelly – Youth Commissioner* | L. Vitek, Mayor |
| L. Kristofer – Youth Commissioner, Secretary* | STC Aldermen |
| J. Muenz – Youth Commissioner, Chair* | C. Minnick, Acting City Administrator |
| D. Saylor – Youth Commissioner | J. Bruggeman, STC Park District* |
| J. Stock – Youth Commissioner* | N. Chaney, STC Library* |
| M. Weick – Youth Commissioner* | J. O’Neal, TriCity |
| | M. Clark, TriCity* |
| | P. Palagi, D303* |

*Attended meeting

- I. Meeting called to order @ 6:01 p.m.
- II. Approval of the minutes from the April 2021 meeting. Commissioner Clavelli made motion. Commissioner Stock seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- III. Treasurer’s Report – Commissioner Clavelli
 - A. Current balance: \$15,000.00
- IV. Correspondence – none
- V. Presentations
 - A. Molly Denz – S.T.C. Learn
 - i. The group is working on closing a gap in education within D303 by providing funds for educational expenses to families in need. STC Learn has raised over \$20,000 in funds in the nine months it has existed. They have funded 220 tutoring hours so far and the organization has helped 111 children total. In addition to tutoring, the organization provides funds for academic enrichment, childcare relief, and home study supplies. This summer they are offering book boxes for elementary students. Fundraising is ongoing, as they want to be able to consider all requests. They are currently receiving an average of three requests per week.
 - B. Leadership Studies Funding Request Updates
 - i. Ainslie Milo, Amelia Chipman, and Callie Brady from St. Charles East provided updates on the success of their Leadership Studies projects and also expressed their appreciation for the funds the Youth Commission approved at the April meeting. Callie Brady noted, “doing something no matter how small is still better than doing nothing.” Instructor John Biernacki could not attend but provided a statement of thanks, as the funds the Youth Commission provided allowed the students to address a need in our own community and beyond.
- VI. Reports
 - A. Liaison Reports
 - i. D303 Schools – Patti Palagi

- a. This week is Teacher Appreciation Week and both teachers and parents teaching their kids at home deserve recognition.
 - b. The Hope Hustle that Youth Commission has funded was held over the weekend.
 - c. Graduation and prom are both nontraditional this year.
 - d. Next year is likely to be in-person learning with social distancing restrictions in place.
- ii. Park District – Jennifer Bruggeman
- a. The miniature golf course is open.
 - b. Both pools will open for the summer with time slots that can be reserved. A discount code for a future visit will be emailed to anyone who signs up.
 - c. Free swim lessons will be offered for 3 and 4-year-olds again this year. There will also be free lessons for kids with sensory needs. Most of these spots are already filled up.
- iii. Police Department – Officers Jim Burden & Meghan Kramer
- a. Officer Burden announced his retirement and introduced his replacement will be Officer Meghan Kramer.
 - b. Officer Kramer provided an update on the offenses from the past month and noted that offenses for nicotine and/or vaping are on the rise.
- iv. Library – Nick Chaney
- a. The library will be offering summer programs which will be possible in spite of the move, thanks to the partnership with the STC Underground.
 - b. Movies in the Park will be offered at Pottawatomie.
 - c. There is a tie-dye t shirt event.
 - d. The take home kits for youth have been very popular.
 - e. The library is planning for a grand reopening on July 17th. There will be tours and activities offered the whole week for families who are interested in participating.
 - f. “The Loft” teen space will feature computers, gaming, and homework help.
 - g. The library will also have a drive-up window.
- v. TriCity Family Services – Michelle Clark
- a. TriCity Family Services has opened the Geneva office for in-person and telehealth visits with masks and social distancing required.
 - b. There is a conference room available for family sessions.
 - c. The St. Charles location will be opening soon for in person visits.
 - d. Applications are still being accepted for the Wilderness Challenge Program. This is for 8th-10th graders with a smaller number of teens being accepted due to COVID this year. All health and safety procedures are being put into place.
 - e. There is a story-time being facilitated virtually for families with younger children with two sessions available, one in the morning and one in the afternoon.
 - f. There is a single mom group that meets via zoom.

- g. May is *Mental Health Awareness Month*. Green is the color. The annual 5K run/walk will be virtual this year.

B. Outreach Sub-Committee Report

- i. Commissioner Wiese has been moved to a different commission with the City, so we will revisit this to see if anyone else would like to step into the role.

C. Student Consultant Committee Report

- i. Our student consultants met as a group on April 15, 2021. 8 out of 10 students were present.
- ii. Middle school students reported IAR tests were coming up.
- iii. High school students talked about the structure of their school day and how this year is different and unique.
- iv. The students from St. Charles East noted that some of the clubs offer tutoring for middle school students in the district.
- v. There was concern about how covid will affect standardized test scores.
- vi. Our next student consultant meeting will be May 20, 2021.
- vii. For the students who are exiting, Commissioner Clavelli has put together a letter and mailed out certificates thanking them for their service.
- viii. Commissioners Clavelli and Kristofer will work on updating the student consultant document that outlines the terms and responsibilities of those who participate.

VII. Old Business

A. Update on Display Windows

- i. Commissioner Weick will try to secure a date in the fall.

B. Ongoing marketing

- i. The Commission will revisit this in the fall.

C. Impact Award

- i. Molly Denz, Teagan Sjogren, and the Snopko brothers were recognized at the April 19, 2021 City Council meeting. Commissioner Kelly and Chairperson Muenz assisted with student introductions and the presentation of the awards with additional Youth Commissioners there to show support. It was a great pleasure to recognize these amazing young individuals in our community. Commissioner Kristofer asked if the Youth Commission could consider donating any unused funds at the end of the fiscal year to one or more of the organizations of the recipients of the Youth Impact Award. Chairperson Muenz agreed to ask Mayor Vitek about this during their upcoming meeting.

VIII. New Business

A. Officer Elections

- i. For the position of Secretary, Chairperson Muenz nominated Commissioner Kristofer. Commissioner Clavelli seconded; motion carried unanimously.
- ii. For the position of Treasurer, Chairperson Muenz nominated Commissioner Clavelli. Commissioner Kelly seconded; motion carried unanimously.

- iii. For the position of Chairperson, Commissioner Kelly nominated Chairperson Muenz. Commissioner Clavelli seconded; motion carried unanimously.

IX. Announcements

- A. Chairperson Muenz explained that Judge Hull has the funding he needs for his project he described to the Youth Commission earlier this spring. If the Youth Commission can find a way to partner with the event with the guest speaker, it does take place in September 2021.
- B. Chairperson Muenz announced that if the Commission does not receive any funding requests, the June 2021 meeting could be cancelled.

X. Public Comment – none

XI. Adjournment

- A. Commissioner Muenz made motion to adjourn at 7:20 pm; Commissioner Weick seconded; motion carried unanimously.

The next Youth Commission meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted,
Lara Kristofer, Youth Commissioner