

Minutes

Youth and Family Affairs Committee

Tuesday, April 20, 2021 - 5:30 p.m.

Videoconference and Teleconference: Zoom

Members Present: Onreka Johnson, Jeff Elbert, Rick Lowe, Dianne Owens, Lisa Shaw, Ernie Sherman, Willie Smith, Woogie Burgess (Administrative Assistant).

Members Absent: Robert Gorrell, Brenda Myers

Guests Present: Chris Chen, Kim McConnell, Amanda Nunez

Agenda

I. Call to Order, establish quorum and ensure public notice requirements have been met.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Committee Chair Onreka Johnson. It was acknowledged that all required posting notifications had been made and confirmed that a quorum was present by videoconference and teleconference, as required by the Oklahoma Open Meetings Act, 25 O.S. 2011, Section 304, as amended by Section 3, Chapter 81, O.S.L. 2019 (25 O.S. Supp. 2019, Section 304, 307.1 and 311), Senate Bill No. 661 (2020).

II. Consider acceptance of the minutes from the April 6, 2021 Committee meeting.

ACTION: Lisa Shaw moved to approve the April 6, 2021 Committee meeting minutes; seconded by Willie Smith, and by roll call vote, unanimously approved by all members present (as noted above).

III. Business

A. Logo Status

Woogie Burgess reported that four logo entries had been received. The Committee members discussed the various entries, and considered settling on the submission that had been submitted in color, subject to it being edited and digitized. Chris Chen offered to digitize the logo for use by the Committee. The student who submitted the selected logo will be notified and the award will be delivered at the next Committee meeting.

ACTION: Jeffery Elbert voted to select the logo with YFAC in blocks and a caterpillar, subject to editing and digitizing, for official use by the YFAC. Seconded by Lisa Shaw. Upon roll call vote, unanimously approved.

B. Review draft application and rubric, and suggest edits

The Committee members discussed extensively issues surrounding whether to require tax exempt status for applicants. Woogie Burgess reported that the City Attorney's office had indicated we should soften the language to allow non exempt organizations to apply.

ACTION: Rick Lowe moved to approve the draft application subject to approval by the City Attorney, with edits to the introduction to indicate opportunities for non-exempt organizations to apply. Seconded by Lisa Shaw. Upon roll call vote, unanimously approved by all members present (as noted above).

C. Discuss whether to recommend to City Council to invite Search Institute of America to provide training (*contingent on receipt of proposal)

ACTION: Rick Lowe moved to table consideration of the issue, since a proposal had not yet been received by the Committee. Seconded by Dianne Owens. Upon roll call vote, unanimously approved by all present (as noted above).

D. Discuss whether to invite other guests or Committee members to present to Committee, and timeframe.

The Committee members generally discussed the opportunity to hear from various Committee members and others who were familiar with other programs that had made significant impact in helping youth succeed and avoid future involvement in the criminal justice system. It was generally agreed by consensus that Rick Lowe, Dianne Owens (or Carrie from Marie Detty), and Brenda Myers would be invited to the next Committee meeting for presentations on such programs.

IV. Other Topics - general questions, input

Jeff Elbert noted that he had set up a Facebook page for the Committee, and that he would be working with Chris Chen and Onreka to be sure information was managed and posted in a timely manner. He said the search term to locate the Facebook was “youthfamilyaffairslawton”.

There being no further business, Chair Johnson declared the meeting adjourned at 6:26 pm.

Next meeting May 4, 2021, at 5:30 pm.