

AGENDA

Youth Services Committee
Monday, November 17, 2014
9:30 a.m.

Room 100

Members and Alternates: Councilmembers Amy Foster (Chair), Bill Dudley, Charlie Gerdes,
and Karl Nurse; Alternate—Steve Kornell

Support Staff: Mike Jefferis, Parks and Recreation Director

- A. Call to Order and Roll Call
- B. Approval of Minutes for Youth Services Committee—September 18, 2014
- C. Agenda Items
 - 1. Juvenile Welfare Board Executive Director Dr. Marcie Biddleman is the guest speaker
- D. New Business
 - 1. Next Meeting Date—Thursday, December 18, 2014
- E. Adjournment

CITY OF ST. PETERSBURG
Youth Services Committee Meeting
Thursday, September 18, 2014 @ 8:30 a.m.

Present: Committee Chair Amy Foster; Councilmembers William Dudley, Charles Gerdes, Karl Nurse and Steve Kornell (alternate)

Also Present: Mike Jefferis, Parks & Recreation Director, Kim Proano, Assistant City Attorney and Heather Worley, Assistant to the City Clerk.

Committee Chair Foster called the meeting to order. Councilmember Gerdes moved with the second from Councilmember Dudley that the July 24, 2014 minutes be approved as submitted. All were in favor of the motion (Foster, Gerdes and Dudley).

In connection with the new business, Youth Services Priorities, Committee Chair Foster asked the Committee to establish priorities that they would like to address for the remainder of the year and began a discussion regarding early childhood education. Councilmember Dudley agreed that he would like to see a greater focus on early childhood education as well as education for parents to include awareness of resources that are available as well as learning additional skills related to parenting. The discussion went on to ask how to inform parents or caregivers of Out of School Time Programs (OST) that may lead to a greater number of enrolled children. Councilmember Gerdes asked about the availability of such programs for high school students. Parks and Recreation Director, Mike Jefferis, explained that while they do offer a Junior Leader Program which encourages older kids to assist younger kids with tutoring and supervision, funding has been difficult to obtain for the high school age range. Further discussion included Operation Graduate. Councilmember Gerdes explained that there is a need to provide constructive activity for kids during the summer months and the time between after school and when parents get home.

Councilmember Kornell entered the meeting.

Further discussion ensued about how to get parents to enroll their children in after school programs. Councilmember Kornell expressed concern about getting the after school programs filled to capacity by encouraging parents to utilize after school programs in order to offer a more structured environment for children during after school hours.

Councilmember Nurse entered the meeting.

Councilmember Nurse explained that the Juvenile Welfare Board (JWB) has connected with St. Petersburg College (SPC) to offer a four course program that will certify pre-school teachers and

that emphasis will be geared towards teachers currently striving to make improvements at their facilities.

Councilmember Kornell exits the meeting.

In closing, Committee Chair Foster clarified main concerns to be early childhood education and program/resource availability for high school kids and expressed the need to invite Juvenile Welfare Board (JWB) Executive Director Marcie Biddleman to a future meeting and consult with her regarding any current JWB initiatives.

The next Youth Services Committee meeting will be held on October 16, 2014.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:38 a.m.