

AGENDA

Youth Services Committee
Thursday, December 18, 2014
8:30 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—November 17, 2014
- C. Agenda Items
 1. Juvenile Diversion Program—Police Department, Parks & Recreation Department
- D. New Business
 1. Next Meeting Date—Thursday, January 22, 2015
- E. Adjournment

CITY OF ST. PETERSBURG
Youth Services Committee Meeting
Monday, November 17, 2014 @ 9:30 a.m.

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

Also Present: Councilmembers Darden Rice, Wengay Newton and Jim Kennedy, Parks & Recreation Director Mike Jefferis, Assistant City Attorney Kim Proano, Juvenile Welfare Board Executive Director Dr. Marcie Biddleman with colleagues Judith Warren and Brian Jaruszewski and Assistant to the City Clerk Heather Worley.

Absent: Councilmember Karl Nurse

Committee Chair Foster called the meeting to order. Councilmember Gerdes made a motion to approve the September 18, 2014 minutes as submitted. All were in favor of the motion (Foster, Gerdes and Kornell).

Councilmember Dudley entered the meeting.

In connection with the new business, guest speaker Dr. Marcie Biddleman, Juvenile Welfare Board Executive Director, with colleagues Judith Warren and Brian Jaruszewski, began by discussing that the JWB spent the past year modifying some programs and exercising portfolio reviews. The agency plans to continue their efforts in three core areas: school readiness, school success, and prevention of abuse and neglect. Dr. Biddleman expounded on each initiative stating that school readiness would result from quality early learning, school success would involve greater community involvement, and prevention of abuse and neglect would focus on preventable juvenile deaths and parental education. Additional JWB initiatives discussed by Dr. Biddleman were partnering with St. Petersburg College to provide scholarships for certification programs that teach and train qualified child care workers, Family Service Initiative facilitated through 211, and the successful children's initiative at Fairmount Park Elementary where attention was directed towards reading, math, and behavior. The success achieved at Fairmount Park may be used as a model for assisting failing schools in Pinellas County. Dr. Biddleman then asked if the Committee had any questions regarding her presentation.

Councilmember Rice asked how JWB deals with performance management and how they measure the impact of their programs. JWB colleague Judith Warren explained that about 90% is done in house by using an in depth evaluation model that helps measure the impact made by assisting families.

Committee Chair Foster mentioned the need to educate parents about available resources and how to help them navigate the system. Dr. Biddleman replied that JWB does not necessarily have the authority, although JWB has assisted in the matter to some degree.

Councilmember Kornell mentioned that he would like to see statistics regarding Department of Children and Family (DCF) involvement. Dr. Biddleman explained that the JWB does not have jurisdiction within the juvenile justice system but that she can get in contact with someone who can provide that information.

The next Youth Services Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, December 18, 2014.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.