

Minutes
Alhambra Youth
Commission August 3, 2023

The Alhambra Youth Commission was called to order at 6:11 PM on August 3, 2023 at the Alhambra Civic Center Library, 101 S. 1st St. Alhambra, CA 91801

Commission Members Present: T. Hernandez, I. Lam, M. Gonzalez, N. Rosales and J. Quach

Commission Members Absent: D. Andrade, J. Cooper, Z. Oliva, A. Tiang and C. Yu

Also present: Deputy Director - B. Houghton, Supervisor - R. Rojas and Program Coordinator - F. Reyes

Flag Salute

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner M. Gonzalez motioned to approve the Minutes of July 6, 2023 meeting. T. Hernandez second the motion. Youth Commission President J. Quach recommended proof reading the minutes due to a typo on page 2 of random letters.

Staff Report

Deputy Director B. Houghton thanked the Commissioners who volunteered at the Movies in the Park event. Supervisor R. Rojas referred the list of remaining 2023 City events she emailed to the Youth Commission President for volunteering opportunities. She stated she'd forward the list to the Commissioners. She also mentioned the park murals as an opportunity for volunteering. She suggested they review the list and let City Staff know which events they were interested in.

Oral Communications

No cards submitted for oral communications.

Commission Orals

President J. Quach recommended the Youth Commission "opt out" of the Tech Talk program, because it's not "youth" based. Deputy Director B. Houghton informed the Commission, it was recommended by the City Council as part of the City's Strategic Plan to bridge the gap between the City's youth and seniors. Deputy B. Houghton stated she could take the request to the City Council for the Commission to be removed. Commissioner T. Hernandez suggested with school's back in session the Service Groups needing service hours could volunteer at Tech Talk. Deputy Houghton suggested the Commissions each choose a month for Tech Talk to share the responsibility giving them a month to gather volunteers, opposed to not being a part of the program. Deputy Houghton suggested a spread sheet be put together with the Tech Talk dates so the Commissioners can choose a month they'd participate in and gather volunteers.

President J. Quach inquired about clarification on the Brown Act and how they can communicate, either by email, text or chat. Deputy Houghton clarified texts and chat are ok, it's the in person group meetings of more than quorum is what they need to be mindful of. She stated she's open to any type of communication with the Commissioners as long as she can get them to respond.

President J. Quach wanted to address a miscommunication about the role of the Commission for the Movies in the Park event. He understood they'd be tabling at the event.

It was clarified by Deputy Houghton and Supervisor Rojas their role was to assist and support City Staff with the event where needed, since they have yet to have any confirmed future projects, volunteer opportunities or an approved flyer for distribution.

President J. Quach asked if the Commission could meet more often and made reference to Ad Hoc meetings. Deputy Houghton said they could have a meeting as long as they have a specific project they're working on. She mentioned working on their flyer layout, planning for future events they want volunteer at, etc.

President J. Quach asked the Commission what they want to focus on for the rest of the year. He mentioned a back to school drive and getting donations or if they had other ideas. Supervisor Rojas mentioned she'd send a sample donation letter, the Tech Talk dates and the City events to the Commissioners. Deputy Houghton suggested a toy drive or a book drive. Giving them more time to plan. President J. Quach recommended a food drive. Commissioner I. Lam shared her service club volunteers for a monthly food drive and she can get the Youth Commission to be a part of it if interested. Supervisor Rojas suggested the Commission take it to a vote to volunteer at a food drive and be a lead of their own project like a toy drive. Deputy Houghton echoed her thoughts. Deputy Houghton asked if there's a local children's shelter the Commission could donate the toys to. Coordinator Reyes said the Fire Department participates in Spark of Love. Deputy Houghton said if they do a toy drive they can take the donations to the Fire Department using it as an opportunity to get the Youth Commission's name out to the Community as well as a great photo opportunity for publicity. Coordinator Reyes suggested they come up with a plan of action of what they want to attack, what they are passionate about, and to revisit the strategic plan. To think about what charitable organizations they want to benefit. Deputy Houghton shared how they're building a chair volleyball team and how they can host a tournament with the Youth Commission. Commissioner Lam suggested the Volleyball tournament to help build the Commission's name to help with future events such as toy drives. Commissioner Hernandez said the girls volleyball season just started and they could be helped with the chair volleyball. President J. Quach said the same of the boys volleyball team. Commissioner N. Rosales said once they build this they can add an athletic clothing drive for the seniors.

President J. Quach made a motion for them to do a toy drive. It passed unanimously. Deputy Houghton confirmed they are focusing on a toy drive with the Spark of Love. They can start working on the donation letter and include the service groups. Coordinator Reyes suggested they select dates to be at the Farmers Market to collect toy donations.

President J. Quach asked if the Youth Commission could have their own Instagram. Deputy Houghton explained how they could not at this time and how the City can promote and post on social media on their behalf.

Deputy Houghton and the Commissioners suggested the various toy drop box locations. She suggested they start working on the verbiage for the flyer. Supervisor Rojas said they should use the same approved template or flyer to be used when promoting.

Commissioner M. Gonzalez said they can promote the flyer in the Moor Weekly. Commissioner Hernandez said they can promote the flyer on the ASB instagram page. Deputy Houghton said they can also do reposting because they get a lot of traction. Commissioner Hernandez is also part of the PTA said they can help promote the toy drive. Commissioner N. Rosales said she can promote at her school La Canada Flitridge. Supervisor Rojas suggested they hold an Ad Hoc meeting before the next Youth Commission meeting to work on a draft flyer for the toy drive, to aid in approval by the Commission.

Deputy Houghton asked the Commission to resubmit their contact information, email and cell phone number to ensure we are in contact.

Adjournment

President J. Quach motioned for adjournment at approximately 7:19 PM. It was seconded by Commissioner I. Lam.