



CITY OF CHELSEA, MA
Department of Health & Human Services

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CHELSEA YOUTH COMMISSION MINUTES

DATE: November 5, 2019

PRESENT: Carla Garcia, Emily Menjivar, Salma Jabri, Fatima Prudencio, Britney Alcazar Fatima Mendoza

ABSENT: N/A

STAFF: Omar Miranda, Nathalie Pardo

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

- a. Meeting called to order at 6:05pm

II. PROJECT PROPOSALS

a. Skate Park

- i. Discussed skate park meeting that was hosted by GreenRoots at the Boys & Girls Club over the summer. There is a student at Chelsea High, Angel Camacho that is leading this project. Fatima Mendoza will be following up with Angel to gather more information and an update on the project. At the meeting it was discussed that Eastern Salt Inc. will be building a new park and they may be including a skate park as part of the project. This will facilitate the location and budget for the project.
- ii. Other ideas discussed were to think of other possible locations such as under the Tobin Bridge but concerns were expressed in the already small amount of public space that the city has
- iii. Fatima Mendoza also spoke about research she did over the summer including grants that are available such as the Tony Hawk Foundation to build a skate park.

b. Soofa Benches

- i. Presented the sofa bench product which is a solar powered bench that has access to chargers via usb drives for public use. The same company also makes solar powered signs that show digital advertisements. The members discussed potential locations for a product like this near bus stops and parks that are heavily trafficked by pedestrians.

c. Youth Needs Assessment

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- i. The members discussed the need to find what the issues that are impacting youth in Chelsea. The easiest method to do this is by beginning to have conversations with peers and other youth in the community. Questions will be drafted by members before the next meeting. The idea of having a teen space or recreation center was brought up as something that is currently lacking for youth in Chelsea. The Commission will also be talking to the library director to see if there is a potential to use their space for teens to gather.

III. PLANNING FOR UPCOMING EVENTS

a. Tree Lighting

- i. Event will take place on December 5 from 5:30-7:30 at the Chelsea Square. Members discussed volunteering for the event. Activity will be determined at the next meeting.

b. Valentine's Day Extravaganza

- i. Discussed the events success from last year. Some changes to planning this year's event include moving the date to not align with Valentine's Day. The Commission felt that it would be more accessible to youth if the event was not about Valentine's Day. Dates will be checked with the ice rink to see when they have availability.

IV. RECRUITMENT PLAN FOR 2019-2020 TERM

- a. The Commission is still looking for new members. Application will remain open

V. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Discussed changing the meeting time but it was decided that 6pm works best for most members.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Meeting adjourned at 7:05pm

VII. NEXT MEETING DATE

- a. November 19, 2019 at 6pm at the Williams Building