

Topeka Youth Commission
 MEETING MINUTES
 Monday, May 13, 2019
 6-8 pm
 Greater Topeka Partnership, 6th Floor Boardroom
 719 S Kansas Avenue

Commissioners in Attendance: Cleo Foster, Karla Navarrete, Isabel Hernandez, Cally Anderson, Jacob Gernon, Kristen Hines, Vanessa Riaz, Makenna Orton, Nikky Bloomquist, Bryce Liedtke, Eva Noble, Thorne Osborne, Oscar Retana, Joseph Phillips

Commissioners Absent: Aden Shute, Forrest Brungardt, Lillian Holmberg, Aditi Malay, Irene Caracioni, Perla Soto, Ashten Corber, Christian Robinson

Advisors: Carolyn Ward, Leo Espinoza, Lindsay Lebhan

Guests: Michelle Stubblefield and Dr. Tiffany Anderson

5:45 - 6 pm	Gather and Networking	Action/Follow Up
6:00 pm	Call to Order	Bryce Liedtke called the meeting to order at 6:03pm
	Approval of the Agenda	Action Item Eva moves to approve the agenda with the modification that the items "Old Business and New Business" be used instead for committee meetings. Jacob Gernon seconded the motion with the modification. The motion carries.

	<p>Approval of the Minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Makenna Orton explains that approval of minutes is when the commission reviews the previous month’s minutes, makes any changes that are needed, then approves them so that they go into the official record. 	<p>Action Item</p> <p>Makenna Orton makes a motion to approve the minutes. Nikky Bloomquist seconds the motion. The motion carries.</p>
<p>Reports</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chair, Bryce Liedtke <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Bryce explains “Raising the heat” <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. We want to get out of the “technical problem area” where we are just dealing with start up, technical stuff ii. We want to get to the area where we at having “productive distress” with lots of discussion so we can make progress and change iii. In sum, do not be afraid to speak your mind, ask questions, bring up doubts, or call something to attention, because that is how we make progress. 2. Treasurer, Jacob Gernon <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. We have received our first donation of \$500! On Wednesday, May 15, Nikky, Bryce and I are meeting with a local banking representative to solicit funding b. Our website topekayc.org is up and hopefully soon we will be able to make donations on the website c. Nikky Bloomquist asks how much we currently have? Jacob responds that we have \$500 3. Local Government Committee, Forrest Brungardt <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Bryce Liedtke reports Forrest Brungardt is absent due to illness, so Bryce provided an overview of the committee’s work b. There was a focus on climate issues, mental health 	

- c. Want to make legislation, but it seems unfocused so Carolyn Ward will work with the committee today to hash it out

4. Outreach Committee, Oscar Retana reports:

- a. Focused on communication and events we can find others to partner with
- b. Battle of the Bands
- c. Collaborate with CoreFirst sponsored events
- d. Collaborate First Friday Art Walk
- e. Grub Crawl- partner with GO Topeka/Visit Topeka and local businesses
 - i. Oscar talked to Lindsay, and we should figure out more details (what we want to do, who we want involved) and we'll get it going
 - ii. Advertising with social media

5. Community Involvement, Eva Noble reports:

Brainstorming boards we can serve on

- a. TYC will hold a training for local boards and TYC members this summer. Only boards attending the training will be considered for TYC member placement
 - i) b. Will coordinate logistics with Washburn University, Vanessa Riaz has a contact at Highland Park to conduct the training. Organizations will be recruited through The Topeka Community Foundation, United Way of Greater Topeka, City of Topeka, Shawnee County, Greater Topeka Partnership and Community Resources Council
- b) Volunteer events- collaborate with other committees to volunteer because there is overlap in interest and purpose between various committees.

- i) KDC volunteer day
- ii) The TYC can work as a group, promote image, help community by volunteering
- c) Goals:
 - i) Short Term (by Dec 31, 2019); hold training, place TYC members on at least 2 boards, hold one volunteer event
 - ii) Long term (End of Dec 2024): volunteer day for urban foresting, have youth commissioners on 5 boards
- d) Bryce Liedtke further explains that there is a park by a downtown hospital and Shawnee County Parks and Rec wants to update it but need manpower. Forrest Brungardt and his committee were enthusiastic, but this was outside the scope of the Local Gov. group, so they plan to partner with the Community Involvement group
- e) Nikky Bloomquist asks why 2024? Eva Noble says because it's 5 years, and that is what the group chose to define as long term.

Work Group Reports

1. Fundraising, Jacob Gernon
 - a. Has a generic template for reaching out for funds via letter. Jacob will share that with the TYC, a pledge form and the TYC handout to be included with the personalized letter
 - b. Bryce adds all 22 commissioners are expected to send out at least 3 letters asking for money (people, businesses, family). Any assistance, coordination, etc - contact Jacob Gernon.
2. Social Media, Eva Noble

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Asking for more members. If interested, contact Eva, Kristin, or Cally! b. Kristin Hines asks if the headshots in the Google drive are shared with her? Nikky Bloomquist says they should be. c. Nikky Bloomquist says Leo Espinoza will take our headshots tonight if you still need them taken d. Eva says if you did something cool, community related, or special then they would love to post about it. DM/email them! 	
<p>Committee Breakouts</p>	<p>Committee breakouts from 6:25-7 pm</p> <p>Nikky reports from the Local Government Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Main goals: mental health and the environment ● Ask city/county to increase finance for mental health ● Suicide prevention- research what other groups have done, see what we can do ● Environment: parks and rec- research them ● Measure success with public awareness, engagement ● Next mtg June 3rd (or sometime that week) at 5pm at Morgan Hall, Washburn University ● Carolyn asks if the next TCYC meeting is on calendars? It's Tuesday, May 28th. Touch base with your council member before hand. YOU reach out, if there's an issue let Carolyn know <p>Eva-community involvement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Invite people from boards to our training ● At training, they want to have a keynote speaker who will highlight adultism and ageism. Want to have TYC youth interact with board members and persuade them to let us serve on their boards. Vanessa Riaz has a contact at Highland 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● TopCity Youth Council Members, please contact your council person before your next TCYC meeting ● Next Community Involvement meeting is June 1st, 4-5 at Morgan Hall ● Next Local Government meeting is sometime around June 3rd at 5pm at Morgan Hall ● Next Outreach meeting is May 24th

	<p>Park to conduct the training.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Karla says there is a YoungLife trip at the end of July, so if the training is when she is gone, how can she be contacted before training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Eva says anyone can attend the training ○ We can try to work around YoungLife since so many youth are in that ● Next Community Involvement meeting is June 1st, 4-5 at Morgan Hall ● Organizations will be recruited through The Topeka Community Foundation, United Way of Greater Topeka, City of Topeka, Shawnee County, Greater Topeka Partnership and Community Resources Council ● Jacob adds we want to send out the first wave of invites before June <p>Oscar - Outreach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Informed on Grub Crawl, It will be August 10th 5-8pm ● Partner with local businesses ● Next meeting is May 24 	
Announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nikky Bloomquist announces that LilliAnna Lucio resigned, and because she is a City Council District 2 TCYC representative, we need a Dist. 2 replacement. That is north-ish, highland park/seaman area. If you have recommendations, please let an officer know ● Eva asks if social media should be used to advertise this? Nikky says not yet. Carolyn says can individually reach out to people if you want <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bryce says app is open all year, can send in, will be reviewed yearly unless we NEED someone (like TCYC rep, targeted recruitment) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● TYC application link those from Dist 2 who want to apply ● www.tiny.cc/topekayouth or ● tiny.cc/topekayouthPDF

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vanessa asks if we know someone, should they apply with application? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Nikky says yes, Just let us an officer know so we look for that application ■ Bryce says the links are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> www.tiny.cc/topekayouth or ■ tiny.cc/topekayouthPDF ● Nikky says if you are having any tech issues let us know!!! ● Bryce notes website is in progress and is up - topekayc.org ● Leo will get our headshot if you need one ● Orientation is Friday, May 31st at Washburn University <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Attendance is mandatory. ○ Carolyn says the first hour is TYC 101, so if you were at the first orientation, you aren't required to arrive until 10 am, but all are welcome. From 10-4pm, everyone needs to be there. Agenda and location will come soon 	
Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Leo announced that he is leaving Topeka in 2 weeks for a job in New York ● Lindsay explains to the commission the new Topeka flag merchandise <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ At Topekaflag.com you can order merchandise ○ It's available to the public, so you can download logos/designs and do what you like ○ Eva suggests the youth commission could make TYC logo merch to help make money. However, she notes we need money to make it, so this is not a viable option currently. ● Carolyn Ward asks when each commissioner's first 3 fundraising letters should be mailed. Answer: by May 31. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There is a fundraising letter template that commissioners have access to. Each commissioner is 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Each commissioner should personalize the fundraising letter, print it with the pledge form and TYC handout and mail at least three letters with the 2 attachments before May 31st (orientation). Come to orientation prepared to report on your progress.

	<p>expected to personalize the letter, print it with the pledge form and TYC handout and mail out at least three letters with the 2 attachments - asking people or businesses each commissioner has a relationship with for funding for the TYC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bryce Liedtke says the GTP can post and mail letters for commissioners if needed. Just get it to Lindsay Lebhan, with her name on it, and she will take care of it. ● Jacob Gernon directs the commission’s attention to the Brown V. Board 65th anniversary events happening around Topeka <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lindsay mentions one such event, a showing of The BlackKKlansman, that is happening at Jayhawk Theater at 7pm on Thursday, May 16th. Admission is free, however you need to register at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/brown-v-board-65th-film-festival-tickets-58688188953 so that they know numbers ● Bryce Liedtke says 5 suicide prevention books he received are available if you want one <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Carolyn Ward the TYC might consider taking a strategy from the book and developing a plan to implement it in our community ● Eva Noble suggests the commission plan a time to meet outside of meetings for fun/”team bonding.” The TYC encouraged to plan this! 	
Adjournment	Adjourned at 7:20pm	Kristin Hines makes a motion to adjourn. Eva Noble seconds. The motion carries.