



August 19, 2021, 6pm, via Zoom

Statesboro Youth Commission Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Stacey Grant, Lakesha Hill, Renata Newbill-Jallow, Caitlin Brady, Tracy Linderholm, Jennifer Mock, Kristina (Tina) Patterson, Yolandra Shipp, Destiny Jordan

City Council Liaison: Amanda Clements

Kristina Patterson called the meeting to order at 6:04 and noted quorum was not present. Agenda was approved as written. Minutes from July meeting were sent via email.

Update from Bulloch BOE Meeting – Lakesha Hill gave an update from the two most recent Board of Education meetings. The BOE approved a grant for CTAE education. The county has begun reporting on COVID - #'s are high, we are considered “high spread” at current rate. Students have moved to eating in classroom. Masks are not mandated but are highly encouraged. There is a bus driver shortage – elementary students are getting out 20 minutes earlier to compensate. Many elementary school teachers are out – shortage of teachers is increasing.

Unfinished Business:

Welcome Back to YOUR Park Event – due to concern over rising COVID numbers, Tina worked with City Council/city manager’s office to determine how to safely move forward – determined that the

focus will be the vaccination event. We'll set up tents near Jones-Love and have Women's basketball team hand out masks rather than play a community pick up game. Tormenta has cancelled due to COVID exposure.

- Water - Yolandra contacted Coca-Cola and had difficulty getting connected to correct person. They are willing to donate in future, but need 48 hours notice. Renata to donate waters for event.
- Volunteers - Lakesha, Caitlin, Tina, and 2 volunteers from Squashing the Spread will be at event

New Business:

Next steps for the Youth Commission? Commission discussed how to serve the youth in a way that is helpful, safe, and doesn't make the city uneasy in light of COVID spread.

- Yolandra suggested contacting schools to find out gaps, what youth need at each school, maybe a wish list that we could help fill.
- Discussed presentations to family and community engagement specialists, focusing on mental health.
- Caitlin suggested outdoor events, possibly an outdoor movie

Announcements:

- Tracy announced new research center: Youth Advocacy and Resilience Research Center - hub at GSU. They are currently hiring co-directors and there will be a press release soon.
- Stacey announced that Our Girls Rock Too is doing events/programming. Their conference is planned for September 18, expecting approximately 100 girls.
- Renata announced the Boys and Girls Club upcoming fundraising gals, and some information on those families and youth served by Boys and Girls Club. Numbers are

slightly down due to COVID. May have some needs that SCYN can help fill the gaps.

Meeting adjourned at 7:02

Action Items:

Kristina Patterson to check on ice availability at Jones-Love.