



City of Santa Barbara
Parks and Recreation Department

Memorandum

DATE: July 17, 2007
TO: Park and Recreation Commission
FROM: Youth Council
SUBJECT: Annual Advisory Committee Report For Fiscal Year 2007

Committee Members

Trisha Barlett	Carli Lochner
Garrett Brown	Claudia Lopez
Greta Conried	Megan Lorenzen
Jessica Cottriel	Cole Lupoli
Adam Fried	Chris McDermut
Chelsey Gonzales	Jimmy Sexton
Christina Gonzalez	Laura Spracher
Alex Huang	Tyree Weinstein Decker
Michael Kim	

Appointment Process and Meeting Schedule

Youth Council members are appointed through an application and interview process. Applications are accepted and reviewed by Youth Council members and staff. Recommendations are received from school counselors and other youth service agencies. Youth Council members conduct brief interviews and appointments are made by a majority vote. The Youth Council continues to reevaluate its appointment process to achieve the most ultimate results.

The Youth Council meets on the first and third Mondays of every month at 5:15 pm in City Hall Council Chambers.

Member Representation

The Youth Council consists of seventeen teens representing five different schools. The representing schools include: Dos Pueblos, Bishop Diego, San Marcos, Santa Barbara High and one Independent Studies student. The youth council members range in ages from fourteen to 18 years old. Ethnically, there are one African Americans, three Latinos, two Asian, one Armenian, and ten Caucasians.

Committee Projects/Activities

This year, the Youth Council's main concentration was on the opening of the new Twelve35 Teen Center. The Youth Council established a Teen Center Planning Committee and in addition to their regular Youth Council meetings, the members participated in weekly and bi-weekly meetings. The planning included activities and policies for the center as well as extensive planning for the two-day grand opening. The teen center opened on March 17, 2007.

In addition to the teen center project, the Youth Council did collaborate on a few other activities. These included 2 presentations at conferences this year (Santa Barbara County Education Office conference, and CADA conference). Also, the Youth Council collaborated on a town hall speak out with both CADA and the ADAP Teen Coalition.

Recommendations/Concerns

Concern: Youth Council is still interested in being officially recognized as an Advisory Group.

Recommendation: Staff is working with Council members to prepare a City Council item regarding this.

Concern: More youth involvement with Youth Council.

Recommendation: That the Youth Council is able to be more visible on school campuses; that the Youth Council meetings are televised or that some television coverage is provided; that Council makes quarterly reports to the City Council, School Board and other youth service agencies.

Concern: Youth Council continues to be more diverse.

Recommendation: Continued involvement with other agencies and more exposure for the Youth Council to neighborhoods.

Concern: Youth Council interns or youth representative have a vote on other Boards and Commissions.

Recommendation: That this matter be reviewed further.