



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION REPORT

AGENDA DATE: December 12, 2007

TO: Park and Recreation Commission

FROM: Recreation Division, Parks and Recreation Department

SUBJECT: Commission Liaison Appointment to the Youth Intern Appointment Policies and Procedures Subcommittee

RECOMMENDATION: That the Parks and Recreation Commission appoint a liaison to serve on the Youth Intern Appointment Policies And Procedures Subcommittee to review and develop recommendations to enhance program participation by youth on City boards and commissions.

DISCUSSION:

On February 7, 1995, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 95-025 that established a Youth Intern Program for Charter Boards and Commissions. The Resolution was established to expand the opportunities for City youth residents to participate in the City's governmental and advisory role process.

On June 6, 2000, Council adopted Resolution 00-044 rescinding Resolution No. 95-025, extending the Youth Intern Program to high school student volunteers who reside within the Santa Barbara High School District or attend other high schools within the City limits to learn first hand how public decisions are made, and how City departments function in providing public services while at the same time providing community service that may qualify for academic credit.

The current process requires the applicant to complete an application, submit a letter from their school principal, be interviewed by City Council, and appointed by the Mayor. This process is somewhat cumbersome and has created delays in appointing youth.

Participation by boards and commissions in the intern program has been limited to date. The Park and Recreation Commission has had a youth intern appointed every year since 1995. Recently the Santa Barbara Youth Council appointed a youth representative to the General Plan Update Committee, and the City Council appointed a youth representative to the Council Committee on Youth and Children (CCYC).

At their December 4, 2007, meeting, the CCYC approved formation of a subcommittee to review the policy and process, and make recommendations back to the Youth Council,

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CCYC, and City Council. Representation on the subcommittee includes one member of the CCYC, a Youth Council member, a Park and Recreation Commission member, the Youth Intern to the Park and Recreation Commission, a High School Principal, and Susan Young, Teen Programs Recreation Supervisor.

Ms. Young would take the lead on organizing the subcommittee and return with a recommendation. It is anticipated the subcommittee would meet two to three times.

Staff recommends that the Park and Recreation Commission appoint a liaison to serve on the Youth Intern Appointment Policies And Procedures Subcommittee.

SUBMITTED BY: Sarah Hanna, Recreation Program Manager

APPROVED BY: Nancy L. Rapp, Parks and Recreation Director