

**Riverside County
Fourth District Youth Advisory Council
Coachella Valley
Tuesday, October 4, 2011 5:30pm
Meeting Minutes**

Riverside County Fourth District Office
73-710 Fred Waring Dr, Suite 115
Palm Desert, CA 92260

Louiza Easley (12)	La Quinta
Liane Yoss (12)	La Quinta
Amanda Boiko (12)	La Quinta
Jacob Rubin (12)	Palm Desert
Brian Rohrbaugh (12)	Palm Desert
Amelia Sullivan (12)	Palm Desert
Noah Lax (11)	Palm Desert
Brittney Baird (12)	Palm Desert
Waverly Tseng (11)	Palm Desert
Ricky Huang (11)	Palm Desert
Brian Bruning (12)	Palm Desert
Elijah Thomas (12)	Palm Desert
Amarpreet Deol (12)	Palm Desert
Marvin Chen (11)	Palm Desert
Kaylie Chen (9)	Palm Desert
Cassidy Collins (12)	Palm Desert
Daniel Rolph (11)	Palm Desert
Ashley Josephson (12)	Palm Desert
Amanda Depierro (11)	Palm Desert
Alexa Depierro (12)	Palm Desert
Katie Drake (11)	Palm Desert
Claire Stephenson (11)	Palm Desert
Jennifer Garcia- Lopez (11)	Palm Desert
Sabina Repesa (11)	Palm Desert
Brandi Wegerle (12)	Xavier Prep
Austin Bragg (11)	Xavier Prep
Helene Mayer (11)	Xavier Prep
William Nelson (10)	Desert Christian



2011-2012 OFFICERS

Brittney Baird, Commissioner
Ashley Josephson, Co-Commissioner
William Nelson, Secretary
Cassidy Collins, Parliamentarian
Brandi Wegerle, Public Relations

Gabrielle Ramirez (12)	Palo Verde
Amy Gaona (12)	Palo Verde
Jazmin Herrera (12)	Palo Verde
Miriam Villanueva (12)	Palo Verde
Abrie Guillen (12)	Palo Verde
Nancy Garibay (12)	Palo Verde
Cody Krisell (12)	Palo Verde
Elise Rodriguez (12)	Palo Verde
Noelle McMillin (12)	Palo Verde
Kelly Stewart (12)	Palo Verde
Ariel Ramierez (12)	Palo Verde
Celeste Vilarde(12)	Palo Verde
Adriana Leon(12)	Palo Verde
Jonathan Smith (11)	Palo Verde
Kamden Atchley(11)	Palo Verde
Taylor Cavazos (11)	Palo Verde
Damian Cortez(11)	Palo Verde
Phoebe Cyr(11)	Palo Verde
Jordan Girard (11)	Palo Verde
Da'za'Nique Kidd(11)	Palo Verde
Taylor Calabrese(11)	Palo Verde
Carley Teater(11)	Palo Verde
Ariana Tribby(11)	Palo Verde
Alexandria Rodriguez(10)	Palo Verde
Rubal Singh(10)	Palo Verde
Stephanie Reyes(10)	Palo Verde
Christopher Perez(10)	Palo Verde
Keila Northrup (10)	Palo Verde
Mickayla Phillips (10)	Palo Verde
Francesca Kontiis (10)	Palo Verde
T.j. Koivisto(10)	Palo Verde
Nicole Bush(10)	Palo Verde
Mikayla Bush (10)	Palo Verde
Shiloh Whiteson(10)	Palo Verde
Landon Bishoff (10)	Palo Verde
Grace Quist (10)	Palo Verde
Savannah St John (10)	Palo Verde
Hannah Drazst (9)	Palo Verde
Alexis Morales (9)	Palo Verde
Francis Relampagos (9)	Palo Verde
Elisa Tellez(9)	Palo Verde

1.0 Call to Order

Commissioner Baird called the meeting to order at 5:37pm

2.0 Pledge of Allegiance

3.0 Roll Call

Members present:

Alexa Depierro, Amanda Boiko, Amanda Depierro, Amarpreet Deol, Amelia Sullivan, Ashley Josephson, Brian Rohrbaugh, Brittney Baird, Cassidy Collins, Claire Stephenson, Daniel Rolph, Jennifer Garcia-Lopez, Kaylie Chen, Louiza Easley, Marvin Chen, Noah Lax, Ricky Huang, Sabina Repesa, Austin Bragg, Brandi Wegerle, Waverley Tseng, and William Nelson

Members not present:

Elijah Thomas (excused), Jacob Rubin (excused), Liane Yoss (excused), and Rene Padilla.

Guests:

Melissa Robles, Angel Estrada, Ashley Mendoza, and Ashlee Verma

4.0 Desert ARC Volunteer Opportunities- Cheryl Curley

Not present

Commissioner Baird asked that Operation SafeHouse of the Desert present in their place.

Operation SafeHouse of the Desert

Representatives from SafeHouse of the Desert spoke about services they provide. SafeHouse of the Desert is a housing facility for teens that have run out of options and need a place to stay to get help. The shelter has 20 beds and has a tutor on site to help the teens get their school work done while and also provides counseling for the teens and their families. This is a 21 day program to help reunite teens with their families. The program is tailored to the teen and if they are in a situation that requires them to stay longer than 21 days then SafeHouse can accommodate.

SafeHouse has just opened a thrift store called POP- Previously Owned Products. POP is located on Palm and Pierson in Desert Hot Springs. In partnership with the Riverside County Department of Mental Health, SafeHouse of the Desert has begun a program called Cup of Happy. This program offers free mental health services for people aged between 12 and 17. Also, SafeHouse’s street team has been working with local businesses to hold weekly open mic nights to promote Cup of Happy. YAC members were invited to take a tour of the facility located in Thousand Palms.

5.0 Esperanza Youth and Family Center Youth Council Introduction

Melissa Robles, Angel Estrada, and Ashley Mendoza from the Esperanza Youth and Family Center attended this YAC meeting to introduce their organization. The Esperanza Youth and Family Center Youth Group works to identify issues and how to solve it. They have worked on getting a trail built along the wash that will connect Thermal and Palm Desert. Currently they are working with SunBus to bring bus routes to the east valley.

6.0 Council Business

Recommendation

6.1 Individual School Updates

Report

Palm Desert: Homecoming football game will be played on 10/21. The homecoming dance will be held on 10/22. Back to School night will be on 10/5.

Xavier: Homecoming game and dance will be held on 11/4.

La Quinta: Homecoming game will be on 10/21. The homecoming dance will be held on 10/22. Back to School night will be on 10/5.

Desert Christian: Homecoming game and dance will be held on 10/14. Current sports are Football and Volleyball.

6.2 September Service Projects

Update

I. Citrus Collection Drive-

Chair: Austin Bragg **Co-Chair: William Nelson**

This project has been moved to December. Austin and William will be identifying collections sites (i.e. work together at country clubs or have one universal drop off point). Details on this project will be discussed at the November YAC meeting.

II. Care packages for hurricane victims

Chair: Daniel Rolph **Co-Chair: Kaylie Chen**

YAC members collected a lot of really great items. It was decided that the light things will be shipped to the Salvation Army in North Carolina. All of the heavier items will be donated to SafeHouse.

6.3 October Service Projects

Update

I. Relay for Life-

Chair: William Nelson **Co-Chair: Ashley Josephson**

YAC did not participate in this event.

II. Palm Desert Golf Cart Parade-

Chair: Cassidy Collins **Co-Chair: Ashley Josephson**

Event will take place on Sunday, October 23. YAC members signed up to help design, decorate, and walk in the parade. Cassidy Collins and Ashley Josephson will contact all YAC members who signed up to set up meeting and decoration dates.

III. Trick or Treating for Canned Goods-

Chair: Waverly Tseng **Co-Chair: Claire Stephenson**

YAC will be collecting nonperishable food and household items during the entire month of October. All of the items collected will be distributed evenly between local homeless shelters and SafeHouse of the Desert. Waverly Tseng and Claire Stephenson will create flyers to use while collecting items and send it out the YAC members.

Some YAC members volunteered to help at the Desert Recreation District Cycle-Fest on Saturday, October 22. YAC will be helping out at checkpoints throughout the race to help pass out food and water to the cyclists.

6.4 November Service Projects

Action

YAC will be volunteering at the Desert ARC Italian Festival on November 5. Louisa Easley and Waverly Tseng will contact Desert ARC and report back to YAC at the November meeting.

YAC members will be collecting Christmas presents for kids in foster care during November. All of the items collected will be donated the For the Children, a local nonprofit for kids (ages newborn to 18 years) in foster care.

YAC will be adopting families from the Riverside County Office on Aging Grandparents Raising Grandchildren program. YAC members signed up to collect specific items so we can provide an entire Thanksgiving dinner to families in need in the Coachella Valley. Amelia Sullivan and Ricky Huang will chair and co-chair this project. More details to come at the November meeting.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.rivcoyac.org

Updated: 10/05/11 NL

6.5 December Service Projects

Discussion

YAC will be collecting citrus during the month of December. More details will be provided during the November meeting.

YAC will be volunteering with For the Children at their annual Christmas Party. More details will be provided at the November meeting.

YAC will decide on volunteering at the palm Springs Festival of Lights Parade and at the Tamale Festival in December.

6.6 Upcoming Blythe Service Projects

Update

Blythe will be participating in the following events:

- “Celebration of Life” Steps for the Cure fundraiser (local canter organization)- Saturday October 22
- Planning a Haunted House to collect canned goods for local organizations. Details will be discussed at the YAC meeting on 10/5.
- Collecting items for SafeHouse Stuff the Bus all month long

YAC members from the Coachella Valley are welcome to join Blythe in any of their events. If you are interested, please contact Noel.

6.7 Riverside County Anti- Human Trafficking Task Force (RCAHT) Update Tabled

7.0 Commission Business

7.1 Commission Meeting

Update

At the Youth Commission meeting on Thursday, September 22 they Youth Commission members discussed the following topics:

- Youth Pet Life Saverz Club- Department of Animal Service came to do a presentation and invited all YAC members to join their youth club.
- YAC Goals- each district talked about the goals they will work on throughout the 2011-2012 term.
- Youth Summit topics- Topics selected for the 2012 Youth Summit are Bullying/LGBTQ tolerance, self-esteem, and internet safety/ self-defense. More updates will be provided soon.
- The next Youth Commission meeting will be held on **Thursday, November 17 at 5:30pm** at the County Administrative Center (CAC) in Riverside. All YAC members are invited to attend.

8.0 Staff Update, Noel Loughrin

No update at this time

9.0 Comments

9.1 Public Comments (3 min.)

None

9.2 Council Comments

None

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Updated: 10/05/11 NL

10.0 Items for next agenda

- Updates on all October service projects
- Updates on November projects
- Discuss December projects
- Youth Summit updates
- Riverside County Anti-Human Trafficking task Force (RCAHT)
- Blythe projects

11.0 Next meeting date

Tuesday, November 1 at 5:30pm

12.0 Adjournment

Commissioner Baird adjourned this meeting at 6:39pm