

Youth First Executive Committee Meeting Agenda

March 19, 2008

I. Attending: Clark, Gary, Nikki, Cynthia, Suzanne, Christine

II. Minutes: Approved

III. Treasurer's Report: None

III. Old Business-

- a. Nikki reported that the Hispanic Resource Council was waiting to hear what Youth First plans were for the mural. The consensus was that the mural be hung Aug. 16th, one day prior to the "Dia del Campesino" celebration on Aug. 17th and that Youth First hopes the mural travels to different sites prior to being hung at the Alternative Ed. Site in Gridley. Nikki believes that the controversy regarding the mural centers around the eye of the eagle which is depicted as a star. Nikki asked for the committee's permission to approach Mario about changing the star to a circle, thus squelching the controversy. Permission was given. The details of transporting, display and possible damage to the mural will have to be worked out. Nikki will take this information to a meeting she will have with the HRC the first part of April and report back to Youth First. It was also discussed that no matter what is going on in Gridley, relative to gang activity, the mural should be hung. The suggestion was made that Youth First have a booth at the celebration and be present during the event.
- b. Christine reported that Joan Brock delivered a letter and a sample of the artwork for Ray Robert's mural to the Sycamore School for the Site Council to consider. There is now over \$700.00 in the mural fund. Sycamore School will have to request permission from the School Board to create the mural. Christine will make sure the site council gets any additional information they need in regard to the mural.
- c. Cynthia reported that we will know the outcome of the SCVPP Grant the first part of May. She also reported that she has submitted a proposal for a \$25,000 Character Education grant of which \$8,000 is designated for the Youth First Coordinator position. Announcements will be made the first part of June.
 - i. Christine reported on the master list of youth activities. It is fairly complete with the exception of a few areas. She will continue to work on it, specifically noting the number of youth who participated in youth activities last year through the Rec. department program and other programs in Gridley. This will give Youth First a baseline by which to measure the growth of participants in Gridley's youth activities.

It was also suggested that a list of summer programs be compiled. Cynthia and Suzanne both commented on the need for programs that reach the younger children in our community. Suzanne related a conversation she had with one of her 1st grade students who had expressed to his older brother that he was too young to be "jumped into a gang". The discussion continued to the topic of summer programs for K-5th grade children in Gridley. Nikki related that she is aware of money in one of NVCSS programs which could be used to help create a summer program. It was suggested that classes be held at the farm labor units and at a location in town, too. The master activity list shows many athletic activities, but few art and drama type activities. Chief Keeler suggested that we look into some dance, art and drama programs for the summer. Cooking and flower arranging classes were mentioned too. Clark directed Nikki to speak with Scott Palmer regarding available funds for a summer program in Gridley. Service clubs

Youth First Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

March 19, 2008

will then be contacted to sponsor a program. **Christine** is going to come up with 10 different activities (arts, crafts, drama, etc.) targeted at Pre-School through 4th grade aged children. Once we have an idea of money available we will look at pulling together a program. It was agreed by all that a minimal fee should be charged for any of the programs offered.

Christine will focus on creating a handout for Gridley youth specifically listing summertime activities.

Suzanne offered to compile a list of dates and places of Vacation Bible Schools offered in the community during the summer.

Christine shared information from the Little League president that if a child wanted to join Little League and could not afford the fee, Little League could not deny that child the right to participate.

- d. The time for nominating new board members is approaching. **Christine** is going to approach Aaron Wood, hospital administrator. **Suzanne and Cynthia** both would like to see more Hispanic community members on the committee. **Cynthia** was going to ask Sonia Ceballos and Gary Sannar. **Nikki** will ask Ronnie Rosales. Nikki will ask Lupe DeLaTorre for suggestions of potential Exec. Committee members. Elections are in May.
- e. Christine spoke to Lisa Van de Hey about getting a Youth First column in the Gridley Herald beginning in April. The column will contain information from the Character Ed. Newsletters which were purchased by Youth First. The column will also contain upcoming events not related to the Gridley Rec. program.

There is interest in collaborating with Mike Dahl regarding signage announcing community events. Christine will follow up.
- f. It was moved by Suzanne Robinson that the Youth First Executive Meetings be changed to the second Thursday of each month @ 6:30 p.m. It is felt by the committee that more people will be able to attend at the later time. It was seconded by Gary Keeler. **Christine** was directed to send out an email to the Youth First contacts and Exec. Comm. Regarding the date and time change.

IV. New Business-

- a. Christine reported on an upcoming Youth Career Fair to be held on April 23rd. There will be trainings during the month of April for High School students in regard to applications, resumes, interviews, etc. which will culminate in employers interviewing students who have attended the workshops during April.
- b. It was decided that Youth First wants to be represented in the Red Suspender's Day parade which will be held on May 17. **Suzanne** will check with the site coordinators regarding student selection for parade participation and to see if coordinator's will accompany the students during the parade. We will need to arrange for more posters and t-shirts for the parade.
- c. It was discussed that any Youth First activities we could incorporate with the "National Night Out" at Dadow Park on August 5th would be a good thing. We can focus on family type activities. We will work with the police department to incorporate Youth First activities.

The next meeting will be held April 10th at 6:30 p.m. at the District Office.