

**Rock Hill Commission for Children and Youth**  
**March 7, 2022**  
**Meeting at Fewell Park**  
**5:30 PM**

The Commission serves to enhance and promote the positive development of all children and youth through comprehensive collaborative action. The Commission will utilize all of the community's resources, public and private agencies, businesses, church and civic organizations, to promote the health, safety, education and social well-being of all children and youth.

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Jenifer Crawford, Queenie Hall, Sarah Hopkins, John Sanders, Mary Robbins Evans, Rick Gist, (Cindy Taubenkimel - via Zoom)

**Absent:** Erica Smith, Clair Roberts

**Staff:** Garnet McKeown, Olivia Reed

**CALL TO ORDER** 5:30 PM

Event passes were given to Commissioners. Refreshments from Old Town Kitchen and Cocktails were available.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes approved.

**Old Business**

- Discussion of #1 Question web page continuous improvements
  - Needs to be a place for community resources
    - Suggestions to add:
      - School District Guide (from Rock Hill School District's Community page)
      - Make sure Parent Academies are listed and ParentSmart
      - Include NAMI, Hulafrog, libraries etc.
      - Update photos
  - Links need to be checked
  - The City of Rock Hill's website is getting updated also
  - Suggestion to have a flyer that could be put out at park bulletin boards with a QR code on it that links to #1 Question page
  - Invite to a future Commission meeting one of the people from PRT who will be involved in updating the page to discuss the layout and how to incorporate content

**Youth Council**

- Projects planned
  - March 26 cleanup project to help the Winthrop Coliseum and Miracle Park area get ready for the Come See Me Festival
    - Rain date - April 2
- Youth Council will also help build dog houses at Bark in the Park July 2 at Fountain Park

### **Youth Service League Report**

- Patti will be able to start meeting with school counselors to start the program back up in the schools
- Planning 2 REC-in-the-Box camps for community kids
  - Will be held Monday – Thursday
- Will also work with Housing and Neighborhood Services to identify a house that needs painting to paint for the summer project

### **ACES & Resilience Task Force Report**

- No report

### **Ambassadors' Meeting Report**

- March 18<sup>th</sup> is the next meeting and will focus on planning for the upcoming Summit held at the Sports and Events Center

### **New Business**

- Discussion of the lack of socialization among students since the pandemic
  - New learning formats
  - The need for supporting mental health providers
    - Teachers are expected to be IT support, counselors, etc. on top of teaching
    - Teachers getting burnt out and stretched when classes combined and so many teachers are out
      - Ratio of students to teachers
      - Teachers leaving profession - need to support them so they aren't overwhelmed and leave
    - Some resources have been implemented on site such as a Behavior Preventionist
    - Need for structure, consistency
    - Need to go back to the basic structure of Maslow's Hierarchy and begin at the bottom instead of reaching for the top without a foundation
- Sarah's students have been working on "Cares"
  - The commercial will be going out this week
  - The students are also helping with Parent Academies on Thursdays in March and with the hotline. Self-care programs are starting up geared towards age categories, beginning with Early Childhood to 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and on through adults
- Continuing to work with kids and parents together on grief needs and offer support and resources

### **Additional Comments**

- Fewell Park Day, a new event showcasing what Fewell Park offers including tennis clinics, disc golf, art classes, etc. will be held April 2.
  - REC-in-the-Box will be there along with the Rock Hill Theatre company and a food truck.
- Come See Me Festival begins in April
  - This year's Mayor's Frog Jump will be held at Miracle Park on April 23
- Carolina Nationals March 18-20
- Miracle League begins March 12 (a 6-8 week program played at Miracle Park)

- A baseball team designed for players with disabilities and a playing buddy
- Last year the program kicked off with 4 teams and 50-60 participants
- This year there are 108 signed up
- If anyone is interested in volunteering or sponsoring Miracle League, let Garnet know.
- Two City pools (Emmett Scott and Boyd Hill) will be opening back up again this summer
- The Adidas Basketball Showcase will be held in Rock Hill, July 4 – 13.
  - Top high school basketball players will play and coaches from the US and Canada will come recruit
- The Rock Hill Special Olympics soccer team is headed to Disney June 4 for the Special Olympics USA Games
- Camp Arc and KinderArc are starting back up in June (1 week per age group)
- Red, White, and Boom will be July 3

The next meeting will be held April 4 at Fewell Park. Future meeting dates were discussed. The August and September meetings will be combined on August 29. There will be no December meeting per usual. All other meetings will commence the first Monday of the month

**Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 6:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Olivia Reed