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**CITY OF DELTONA, FLORIDA  
PARKS & RECREATION YOUTH ADVISORY SUB-COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING  
Monday, May 11, 2009**

A Regular Meeting of the Youth Advisory Sub-Committee was held on Monday, May 11, 2009 in the City of Deltona's 1st Floor Kitchen at 2345 Providence Blvd., Deltona, Florida.

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by the Chair, Michael Damico.

**2. ROLL CALL:**

|                                     |                  |         |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|---------|
| Youth Advisory Sub-Committee Member | Shannon Foster   | Present |
| Youth Advisory Sub-Committee-Member | Stephanie Greene | Present |
| Youth Advisory Sub-Committee Member | Jasmine Slone    | Absent  |
| Youth Advisory Sub-Committee Member | Jennifer Slone   | Present |
| Youth Advisory Sub-Committee Member | Talia Jackson    | Present |
| Youth Advisory Sub-Committee Member | Alexis Walker    | Present |
| Youth Advisory Sub-Committee Member | Bianca Walker    | Present |

Also present were: Steve Moore, Director of Parks and Recreation and Marlene Brown, Administrative Assistant, Parks and Recreation Department, City of Deltona.

**3. SILENT INVOCATION:**

The Chair asked for a moment of silence.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Motion by Alexis Walker, seconded by Talia Jackson to approve the Regular Minutes of April 13, 2009. There was no discussion. The Motion was unanimously approved.**

**5. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Handouts for various events were given to the members.

**6. CITIZENS COMMENTS:**

The citizens present had no comment.

**7. OLD BUSINESS:**

**a. Teen Web Page Update:**

1 No information was received from the members. Mrs. Brown explained that she could  
2 not access the individual schools in Volusia County as there was no individual web address for  
3 the schools. Members did not submit any information and were reminded by the Chair to do  
4 so.

5  
6 **b. Fundraisers for 2009:**  
7

8 The carwash raised \$184.26. There was a query about the \$.26 and it was explained  
9 that when the kids were working in the park for the Easter Eggstravaganza and advertising the  
10 car wash, people threw in whatever change they had. Two (2) \$5.00 gas cards were mailed to  
11 the winners of the car wash fundraiser.

12  
13 **c. Teen Dance:**  
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15 Mrs. Brown explained that the dance is in approximately four (4) weeks. She  
16 explained that the Parks and Recreation Department will handle the costs associated with this  
17 event but that we needed to keep it as inexpensive as possible. A list of what was needed was  
18 given to the members for discussion. Pizza and cake was scrapped from the list and the  
19 recommendation was for a cup of soda and chips along with some Chex Mix and candy on the  
20 table. Admission price was discussed at \$2.50 per person. It was suggested that each member  
21 bring 3 liters of soda. Mrs. Brown advised that she would purchase the food items at Sam's  
22 Club.

23  
24 The decorating committee was asked to coordinate with each other via the phone. The  
25 colors they want to use are purple and green.

26  
27 The DJ was not confirmed at this point. Mr. Moore said that he would pay for the DJ  
28 but he needed to know how many people were going to be in attendance. The gym holds about  
29 225 people. The members wanted to plan for 100 people. He said he would find the DJ as he  
30 had someone in mind who already had all his equipment. He wanted to keep the cost as low as  
31 possible.

32  
33 The Vice Chair asked if the sub-committee could call a special meeting to finalize all  
34 the preparation for this dance. Mr. Moore explained about the time frame for advertising the  
35 meeting. Everyone agreed to meet on Friday, May 22, 2009.

36  
37 Appropriate attire for the dance was also discussed.

38  
39 **8. NEW BUSINESS:**  
40

41 **a. Sheriff Department:**  
42

43 Sgt. Leahy with the Sheriff Department introduced himself to the sub-committee. He  
44 told them he has been in law enforcement for about 18 years. He told them he had worked in  
45 the court room, he did road patrol, did field training, worked violent person crime, worked as a  
46 school resource deputy for 5½ years and now is the supervisor for road patrol deputies. Having

1 worked in the schools, he explained that he has a lot of experience dealing with the age group of  
2 the members on this sub-committee. He said the new administration is initiating a position  
3 where he will now be able to do more of this type of relations work as well as working the road  
4 a little, with focus on crime prevention.

5  
6 He told them that all the stories he was about to tell them were real. He did ask for their  
7 participation as he wanted to interact with them. He asked the members to tell him what  
8 “decision” means to them. One response was “a choice you make”. He said that all decisions  
9 boil down to the choice you make and every decision has a consequence. He explained how  
10 some choices people made ended up costing them their lives. He explained that some people  
11 never think that something is ever going to happen to them. He said if they thought these things  
12 would have happened to them they never would have made the choice they did in the first place.

13  
14 He told them that at their age they are faced with many tough decisions. He asked them  
15 where they would go and who they would turn to for help. He said that some kids their age feel  
16 like they know everything. He gave them a scenario of hearing about an incident that might  
17 happen at school and encouraged them to think about going to an adult. He asked them what  
18 “instinct” meant to them and got several meanings. He told them that if something inside them  
19 tells them it is not right then it probably is not right. He explained that as they get older,  
20 instincts get easier as they now have life’s lessons as their guide.

21  
22 He talked about “MySpace” and “Face Book” and encouraged them to get off the  
23 computer and watch the news sometime. The general response was that the news scared them.  
24 Sgt. Leahy told them that fear keeps them alert and makes them think. He said fear is a good  
25 thing if it is used to their advantage. He reinforced that they should think before they act and  
26 that they need to realize that some of those situations can happen to them.

27  
28 He made reference to the Columbine school incident and explained that rumors could  
29 affect their decision making depending on the rumor. He said it was better to let someone know  
30 and it turned out to be nothing rather than not telling and there was an incident. If they don’t  
31 advise the school office or an adult and then something does happen, they would have to live  
32 with that for the rest of their lives, that they made the choice not to tell someone. He  
33 emphasized to them that every single school shooting that took place, someone knew about it  
34 because the person committing the crime told someone. He explained that the unfortunate  
35 reality of some of those incidences is that it can either end or change their lives forever.

36  
37 He really let it sink in that the choices and decisions they make can affect them for the  
38 rest of their lives. He told them that “Tom” cannot monitor everything on “MySpace” as he is  
39 only one person and they should not put pictures of themselves out there as they could be used  
40 for other things. He told them they are leaders and that they need to share these stories with  
41 their friends so they will also be aware of what goes on and what they need to do to make a  
42 difference.

43  
44 Sgt. Leahy addressed school crimes. He said sometimes kids come down hard on their  
45 parents not realizing that the parents know what is best for them when they deny them going  
46 someplace. He gave them the story of a girl who was denied going to a “rave” party but she

1 sneaked out and went anyway. She ended up trying to hurt herself because of a drink she got at  
2 the party. She ended up in the hospital but fortunately her story had a happy ending.  
3

4 Sgt. Leahy also addressed smoking marijuana and said that a pound of drugs is a pound.  
5 The drug dealers want to make the most of their investment so they will lace the marijuana  
6 with anything they can get their hands on to make up the weight – cocaine, rat poison, paint  
7 thinner, fiberglass, floor stripper, etc.. The purchaser does not know what they are really  
8 getting and they can end up getting hooked on more than one drug or even feel like they are  
9 “superman”. He said drugs will affect the way they think and cautioned them seriously against  
10 using drugs.  
11

12 He talked briefly about school bullying. He said the classic bully usually picks on the  
13 younger kids and probably throws them in a trash can, but he said for the most part bullying is  
14 usually trash talk between two (2) people.  
15

16 Sgt. Leahy closed by reiterating all the important points that they need to remember and  
17 told them they have the opportunity to turn things around and make the right choices. He told  
18 them they were old enough and smart enough to make the right choices; they are also young  
19 enough to be guided. He told them to have conviction, believe that it is the right thing to do and  
20 to be strong. He told them that he enjoys speaking with kids.  
21

22 The Youth Advisory Sub Committee members really participated in this meeting with  
23 Sgt. Leahy. They responded to his questions and asked questions of their own. They thanked  
24 him for his time in coming to address them.  
25

26 **9. DIRECTOR’S COMMENTS:**  
27

28 Mr. Moore had to leave to go his Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting while  
29 the committee members were still talking with Sgt. Leahy.  
30

31 **10. COMMITTEE COMMENTS:**  
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33 The Vice Chair  
34

35 **11. NEXT MEETING DATE:**  
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37 At the request of the members, a special meeting date was set for Friday, May 22, 2009  
38 at 5:30 p.m. in the first floor kitchen.  
39

40 The next regularly scheduled meeting date is set for June 8, 2009 at 5:30 p.m. in the first  
41 floor kitchen.  
42

43 **12. ADJOURNMENT:**  
44

45 **Motion by Shannon Foster, seconded by Alexis Walker to adjourn. The Motion**  
46 **was unanimously approved.**

1           There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

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4       Approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of May, 2009.

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11   ATTEST:

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15   \_\_\_\_\_  
16   **Steve Moore**

17   **Director**

**Parks & Recreation Department**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Michael Damico, Chair**