



Agenda
Village of Arlington Heights
Youth Commission
Arlington Heights Memorial Library Room I - 500 N. Dunton Ave AH 60004

August 15, 2024
6:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. June 20, 2024 Minutes

IV. REPORTS

- A. Library
- B. Park District
- C. Police Department
- D. Schools
- E. Members at Large

V. OLD BUSINESS

- A. 2024 Voting Awareness Project
Commission will discuss and review what would make for an effective resource for new voters.
- B. Fall/Winter Project
Commission will determine whether to pursue an opportunity/event for teen volunteering or for encouraging reduced screen time.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

IX. ADJOURNMENT

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Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005, mercado@vah.com or (847)368-5793.



**Youth Commission
8/15/2024**

Item: Minutes

Department: HHS

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

June 20, 2024 Minutes

Type

Minutes



Minutes
Village of Arlington Heights
Youth Commission
Arlington Heights Memorial Library
500 N. Dunton Ave 2nd Floor, Room I
June 20, 2024
6:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Son called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. The Commission welcomed new members Colin Smith, Sydney Galla, Riley Phillips and Michael Bauer. Everyone introduced themselves.

II. ROLL CALL

Present

Alice Son, Chairperson
Chyrel Moore
Lucy Jochaniewicz
Christopher Hong
Jennifer Borrell
Colin Smith
Sydney Galla
Michael Bauer
Riley Phillips

Also Present

James McCalister, Liaison
Kimberly Witt, Administrative Assistant
Dr. Jerome Meservey, Chair of Board of Health

Absent

Detective Taryn Gombar
Matt Healy
Dr. Afroz Hafeez
Ava McQuade

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Minutes from February 15, 2024

A motion was made by Commissioner Borrell to approve the minutes of the February 15, 2024 meeting, seconded by Commissioner Hong and approved by unanimous consent.

IV. REPORTS

A. Library

Chair Son reported that it is summer reading time at the library. She described the reading program where teens and high schoolers will receive a beach ball upon signing up, have a chance to spin the prize wheel, and win various prizes along the way. At the end of summer, the teens receive a book for participating. For those who find reading a challenge, reading for the summer program can also count towards required reading for school.

Chair Son mentioned that the library has another exciting event coming up which is Fan Con on July 14th, the library's version of Comic Con. This day-long event offers activities for different fandoms and draws in a large crowd around 700 to 900 people. Additionally, the Teen Film Fest is happening on August 16th. Teens submit their short film by August 2nd for a chance to win cash prizes. It's a fantastic opportunity to showcase their creativity. The library is bustling with summer activities, and thrilled to have teens utilizing the library.

A. Park District

No Report

B. Police Department

No Report

C. Schools

Commissioner Moore mentioned that children are currently out of school, enjoying time with their friends and engaging in activities, ideally away from social media. In the meantime, schools are undergoing renovations and integrating new technologies.

D. Members at Large

Commissioner Smith from St. Viator mentioned that he is currently attending summer school, which runs daily from 8 am to 4:30 pm for three weeks.

Commissioner Jochaniewicz, also from St. Viator, reported that camps and summer school are ongoing. She has been assisting at a kids' golf camp.

Commissioner Phillips from Prospect shared that her finals went well and she has been playing tennis daily.

Commissioner Hong from Buffalo Grove stated that he is attending summer school online and participating in sports camps. He noted ongoing renovations at the school.

Commissioner Gala from Prospect reported successful finals and her participation in a cross-country camp, highlighting the numerous camps currently taking place.

Commissioner Borrel commented on the presence of new faces at the Commission meeting, expressing appreciation for the meeting.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Teen Job Fair

Chair Son provided an overview to the new Commissioners on the Teen Job Fair's events and activities held in March. She noted that this fair is an annual event initiated by the Youth Commission that has been held for more than a decade. She worked closely with the attending Commissioners to discuss successful aspects and areas for improvement.

What worked well?

- Having a map/checklist of businesses
- Layout was good so that teens could walk in a circle around and visit businesses
- Parent Lounge being separated
- Good number of businesses, new ones and returning ones
- Timeframe was good - 1.5 hours

What could be improved?

- Parent Lounge
 - Providing a list of best practices for those who are attending, including the parents
 - Teens going in by themselves shows that they are independent and responsible
 - Maybe parents should not be allowed in the room. More strict guidelines?
 - Maybe parents being there could help a teen ease into a new experience.
- Ask businesses earlier to attend the fair – start asking in January
- Raffle
 - Clearer instructions on how to register for the raffle
 - Clearer guidelines that it's 1 per person
 - More QR codes to register their raffle - add it on the pamphlet/map
 - QR code prevented teens without phones to register
 - Provide laptops for teens registering without phones
 - Maybe change to in-person drawing at the end of the event
- Welcome Desk
 - Bigger desk to speak with multiple people at once
 - Microphone and speaker to be heard by more people/accessibility
 - Let people in waves to be able to discuss the Teen Job Fair
 - Draw raffle during the fair. Note in the pamphlet the drawing time.
 - Draw 1 every 30 minutes
- Commissioner Hong in costume next year

B. 2024 Voting Awareness

Chair Son discussed the 2024 voting awareness project, mentioning that while it was initially proposed by former Commissioners who have graduated out of the Commission, it is important to revisit and discuss whether the Commission still wishes to pursue this initiative.

There was discussion about the project's focus, which includes educating teens on the voting process and teaching them how to research candidates. Voting occurs biennially, and it's valuable for teens to understand this process well before they reach the age of eighteen. A question was asked if there is data available on how many teens vote. While Chair Son didn't have the answer at the moment, she assured she would look into it. Many Commissioners agreed that teens often do not vote due to a lack of awareness.

about the process and issues at stake. They suggested that increasing awareness would be beneficial in encouraging teen participation. The Commission discussed if they would like to continue with this project. After discussion and deliberation, the Commission has decided to proceed with the project. They may create a flyer containing questions and resources for teens interested in learning about voting.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Son proposed to the Commissioners that they brainstorm additional engaging projects. The discussion involved exploring ways to assist teens in meeting school graduation requirements for volunteer hours by identifying suitable volunteer opportunities. Another idea was to organize offline activities where teens can gather to reduce screen time. Additionally, there was a suggestion to host a laser tag event at the library as a screen-free activity option.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Hong, seconded by Commissioner Galla, moved to adjourn at 7:09 p.m. all concurred and the motion carried unanimously.