



Minutes Mayor's Youth Advisory Commission October 7, 2017

Minutes of the MAYOR'S YOUTH ADVISORY COMMISSION (MYAC) held on Saturday, October 7, 2017, 12:00 p.m., at the Kiwanis Recreation Center 611 South All-America Way Tempe, Arizona.

(MEMBERS) Present:

Emma Moriarty, Interim Chair
Aerowyn "Piper" Allen
Hayden Eastwood
Natalie Edgington
Juliet Farr
Bhavanapriya Giridar
Noble Harasha
Carter Miller
Clara Moffitt
Alissa Montano
Synthia Ramos
Aviva Sanchez
Roberto Sandoval
Safiyah Zubair

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Jose Bernal Martinez
SaTavia Chest
Ryan Emerson
Regan Hatch
Liam Huggins
Andrea Lara-Romero
Alexia Moreno
Amber Price
Sophia Price
Jordan Wulfekuhl

City Staff Present:

Mary Mezey, Social Services Supervisor, MYAC Advisor
Aaron Peterson, Strategic Management Analyst
Tony Miller, Tempe Police Department Sergeant
Franklyn Razo, Tempe Police Department Officer
Reed Ribotta, Tempe Police Department Officer

Guests Present:

Jevin Hodge, Community Member, former MYAC member

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order

Interim Chair Emma Moriarty called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

MYAC Advisor Mary Mezey asked the Commission to move Agenda Item 2 (Introduction to MYAC) to after Agenda Item 3 (Ice Breaker and Introductions). Commissioners agreed to adjust the agenda.

Agenda Item 2 – Ice Breaker/ Introductions

Commissioners introduced themselves. New members were welcomed.

MYAC Advisor Mary Mezey and Interim Chair Emma Moriarty facilitated ice breaker activities.

Agenda Item 3 – Introduction to MYAC

Interim Chair Emma Moriarty provided an overview of MYAC ([attached](#)).

MYAC Advisor Mary Mezey noted that she is the interim MYAC Advisor until a permanent Advisor staff member is hired.

Jevin Hodge shared about his experience serving on MYAC and ways he has used his experience as a Commissioner throughout his career.

Agenda Item 4 – True Colors Temperaments and Leadership

Strategic Management Analyst Aaron Peterson provided training on the True Colors Temperaments.

Agenda Item 5 – Team-Building and Get to Know City of Tempe

Commissioners transitioned the meeting location to the Kiwanis Park Police Department Substation.

Tempe Police Sergeant Tony Miller and Officers Franklyn Razo and Reed Ribotta provided an overview of the Department's K-9 Unit and demonstrated various training activities with their assigned K-9 dogs.

Meeting adjourned at 4:43 p.m.

Next meeting will be on October 24, 2017.

Minutes Prepared by: Mary Mezey
Minutes Reviewed by: Marie Raymond

Emma Moriarty, Interim Chair
Mayor's Youth Advisory Commission

Tempe Mayor's Youth Advisory Commission (MYAC)

When and Why Was MYAC formed?

The Tempe Mayor's Youth Advisory Commission (MYAC) was established in 1980 in response to the problems youth often face, such as teen violence, pregnancy, substance abuse, depression, and lack of recreational opportunities. While discussed as part of the problem youth had no voice in local government and were not included as part of the solution. Many communities addressed youth issues by creating advisory boards made up of adults who work with and for youth. They sometimes included one or two students. The City of Tempe recognized the importance of youth input and created an advisory commission made up of 100% youth that reports directly to the Mayor and City Council. As one of the oldest youth commissions in the country it has been a model for the formation of other youth advisory boards.

What Is the Purpose of MYAC?

To promote youth involvement by:

- Offering a forum for youth to express their views and interests
- Initiating and coordinating activities for Tempe youth
- Providing opportunities to develop leadership qualities
- Representing youths' interests, needs and ideas

Who Is on MYAC?

- 18 – 24 youth grades 8th through 12th who reside in Tempe and/or attend school within the City of Tempe boundaries.
- Selected for three year terms by Tempe schools and youth group leaders.
- Represent a variety of youth perspectives and interests.

What Are the Goals of MYAC?

- Explore solutions for local youth problems and relay suggestions directly to the Mayor and City Council.
- Represent Tempe youths' interests and opinions.
- Sponsor an annual youth event.
- Support other community efforts that recognize youths' accomplishments.
- Represent Tempe youth at local, state and national events.

What Events Does MYAC Sponsor?

MYAC plans and sponsors two annual events:

Youth Town Hall:

Youth Town Hall creates a dialogue between middle and high school students in Tempe and community decision makers, including school board members, civic and business leaders, public service agencies and elected officials. Approximately 125 people attend each year. 85% of participants are youth and the remaining participants are adults. These youth and adults exchange ideas and propose viable solutions for issues facing Tempe's youth. Recommendations generated at Town Hall are published in the Youth Town Hall Report, which is presented to the Tempe City Council for possible action or policy changes. The report is also widely disseminated in our community. Over the years numerous recommendations have been implemented. Youth Town Hall gives youth the opportunity to have direct input into policy affecting them and experience the results.

Community Service Project:

Each year MYAC plans and implements a community service project to benefit youth in Tempe. Past projects include: Healthy Habits presentations for elementary-age students, "Reading Rox" to promote the love of reading among elementary-age students, and a foster care awareness campaign.

What Other Events Is MYAC Involved In?

- One of the sponsors of the annual YouthFest Changemakers and Courage Award Recognition.
- Youth delegate at the Arizona League of Cities and Towns Conference.
- Attendees at the Governor's Youth Leadership Day.
- Participate on youth panels, forums, etc. as requested.

MYAC Webpage: <http://www.tempe.gov/MYAC>

