**GOLDEN GATE COMMUNITY CENTER ADVISORY BOARD**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**04/01/2019**

**Advisory Board Members Present:**

**Ms. Kaydee Tuff, Chairman**

**Mr. Bill Arthur - Advisory Board Member**

**Ms. Ernie Bretzmann - Advisory Board Member**

**Ms. Cecelia Zenti - Advisory Board Member**

**Also Present:**

**Ms. Vickie Wilson, Supervisor, Golden Gate Community Center**

**Mr. Pietro Ricci, Program Leader, Wheels BMX Skate Park, Golden Gate Community Center**

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**I. Call to Order:**

Ms. Tuff called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**II. Attendance/Establish a Quorum**

Roll call was taken, with a quorum established.

**III. Approval of Agenda**

**+**Ms. Tuff requested the addition of an agenda item under New business:

c. Painting of the Wheels facility.

***Mr. Bretzmann entered a motion to approve the agenda, with the noted addition. Ms. Zenti seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was carried.***

**IV. Approval of Minutes – March 4, 2019**

***Mr. Arthur entered a motion to approve the March 4, 2019 meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Bretzmann seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was carried.***

**V. Public Comments**

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

**VI. Old Business – Mr. Pietro Ricci**

**+Teen Center Update:** Mr. Ricci, Program Leader, addressed the Advisory Board to discuss the possible implementation of a Teen Center at the Wheels facility. Mr. Ricci stated that three local high schools are presently targeted for participation; Golden Gate High School, St. John Neumann Catholic High School, and Palmetto Ridge High School, although the Teen Center would be open to all county high school students who wished to participate after school. A Teen Center Survey has been created in order to solicit feedback from local teenagers regarding overall interest in a Teen Center, as well as potential activities of interest. Advisory Board members were encouraged to complete the survey as well.

Mr. Ricci identified the goals and objectives of the Teen Center as follows:

+Provide and demonstrate a safe and enjoyable environment for members utilizing the Teen Center.

+Create and engage in a social environment, with interaction amongst teens and with the public.

+Learning opportunities for college preparation.

+Promote and assist with career development.

+Educate and sustain healthy financial stability.

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Various types of programming opportunities were discussed, including a variety of teen socials, field trips, volunteer projects, and educational sessions. Wheels facility enhancements under consideration include the establishment of free Wi-Fi, an update of the game room with televisions, gaming consoles, furniture, and workstations with computers. Potential field trips or community programs would originate at the Wheels Teen Center as a starting point. The Collier County Sheriff’s Office will be working with the Wheels Staff in this endeavor and may incorporate some teen programming as well. Mr. Ricci stated that the project is presently in the conceptual stage, however next steps towards implementation are ready to be pursued, with identification of key contacts and possible funding sources. The goal startup timeframe for the Teen Center would coincide with the new school year. Mr. Ricci provided Advisory Board Members with his contact number at the Wheels facility and solicited feedback regarding the Teen Center startup and subsequent activities.

Ms. Tuff stated that middle school aged children have far less after school activity options than high school level students, or even elementary school age children. Ms. Tuff encouraged participation of the underserved middle school level, with focus on Golden Gate Middle School, which is in the local MSTU district. Further, the walkability to the Wheels Facility would facilitate participation at the middle school level and possibly encourage mentoring by older students; helping with homework and acting as positive role models. Mr. Ricci stated that exact parameters had yet to be determined, however initial thoughts were to target grades 9 through 12, ages 15+, due to their increased level of maturity and social skills.

Ms. Zenti suggested an orientation event be held for 13-year old students as an introduction to the Teen Center, which would be available to them at the high school level. Ms. Tuff reiterated her concern of a missed opportunity by investing in a program which would leave out a segment of young people in need in the community and only targeting a smaller, specific group of students who have many other after school activities/options available to them. Ms. Zenti suggested the possibility of the younger students being held to specific hours of operation, with the older students likely arriving later. Ms. Tuff suggested that the younger students might utilize separate areas of the facility. Ms. Tuff questioned whether middle school aged students who presently utilize the Wheels Facility may be unable to do so at all by being disallowed membership to the Teen Center.

Mr. Bretzmann concurred with Ms. Tuff and suggested a possible multilayered program, as middle school aged children are too young to work or operate a vehicle, and are without many extracurricular activity options, while high schoolers have many extracurricular options, as well as after school jobs.

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Mr. Bretzmann suggested a possible 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. timeframe for middle school children to utilize the Teen Center after school, followed by high school age members, with limited co-mingling of age groups.

Ms. Tuff further suggested working with Staff at Golden Gate Middle School in possibly awarding Teen Center memberships to outstanding students.

In summary, it was the consensus of the Advisory Board that investment in a Teen Center was sound, however preferred the program to be made available to a wider age group of children, with the inclusion of middle school age students.

Mr. Ricci stated that all suggestions regarding participation by middle school aged students will be shared with Staff, with ideas of activities and integration of age groups shared with the Advisory Board at an upcoming meeting.

**VII. New Business**

1. **Easter Event** – Ms. Wilson stated that the annual Family Easter event was upcoming on Saturday, April 6, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at the Golden Gate Community Center. The event will include games, inflatable's, crafts, music, food and the Easter Bunny. No egg hunt is planned this year. 300-500 children are expected to attend. 12 to 15 volunteers are needed to assist at the event and Advisory Board members were encouraged to participate. Various groups in the community have been contacted in this regard, including Golden Gate High School and the local Key Club, via the Community Center volunteer coordinator.

Representatives from the Suncoast Federal Credit Union had previously contacted Community Center Staff, expressing an interest in outreach to the Latin American community. In response, Staff has requested their participation in the Easter event in the form of a possible donation of a DJ at the event, as well as bags to use for Easter egg collection. Further, a list of all upcoming Community Center events has been submitted for consideration of future collaborative participation.

1. **+Preschool Prom –** The 2019 preschool prom will be held on Friday, May 3rd from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., with a ticket cost of $3.00 per person. Ms. Wilson reported that there were 98 participants at last years’ event and double that number is expected to attend this year’s prom. The theme is “Hollywood,” with a red carpet and step-and-repeat area for photographs with an “Oscar” trophy. Music will provided by a live DJ. Balloons will be scattered on the dance floor, with refreshments available. Ms. Zenti suggested seeking possible food donation from local sandwich shops.

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1. **Operating Capital Requests –** Ms. Wilson stated that operating capital funding is currently available and feedback was requested from the Advisory Board regarding possible projects for consideration at the Community Center. The current $328K budget already includes funding for parking lot improvements, kites, irrigation, and landscaping. Regarding the Wheels Facility, Wifi is planned and is anticipated to be available this summer. Ms. Tuff advised careful choice of durable furniture for Wheels, as this will likely exceed the $1K/item minimum requirement. Clarification at a future meeting was requested as to the $1K/item minimum rule, which was felt to encourage unnecessary spending. Mr. Bretzmann suggested that this parameter could be changed. Ms. Wilson stated someone would be present at the next Board meeting to discuss the operating capital budget.
2. **Painting of the Wheels facility –** Ms. Tuff stated the need for exterior painting of the Wheels Facility, especially in view of the planned Teen Center and projects at that location. Ms. Wilson stated that a cost estimate of $35K had been given for the exterior painting. Funding for this project may not be derived from available capital funds because the work is contracted out and therefore, funding would come from the operating budget. As such, a motion from the Advisory Board was necessary in order to initiate a budgetary request for painting of the Wheels building.

***Mr. Bretzmann entered a motion for Staff to move forward with a request for funding for exterior painting of the Wheels facility. Mr. Arthur seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was carried.***

**VIII. Member/Staff Comments**

**+**Ms. Tuff remarked upon the numerous areas within the Community Center where the paint is already peeling after having recently been painted. Ms. Wilson replied that Community Center Staff will be touching up these areas, prior to the commencement of summer camps. Kids will also be instructed to not sit against the walls, in an attempt to prevent further patches of peeling paint.

+Ms. Wilson stated that she will be on vacation in early May and requested an alternative date for the next Advisory Board meeting. The Board consensus was to change the next meeting date to June 3, 2019.

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**IX. Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn the meeting was entered by Ms. Zenti. The motion was seconded by Mr. Arthur. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned.

**Golden Gate Community Center Advisory Board**

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**Ms. Kaydee Tuff, Chairman**

**These minutes approved by the Board/Committee on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as presented, or as amended \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**Next meeting, June 3, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.**

**Collier County Golden Gate Community Center**

**4701 Golden Gate Parkway, Conference Room “C”**

**Naples, FL**

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