

Evansville Youth Center

Regular Meeting

Youth Center, 209 S First St., Evansville, WI 53536

Monday, August 28th, 2023 5:30 pm

Minutes

1. **Call to Order:** 5:34pm, along the street outside the Youth Center.

2. **Roll Call**

Members		Others Present
Aldersperson Ben Corridon	Present	None
Abbey Barnes	Present	
Kenneth Updike	Present	
Bill Lathrop	Present	
Abraham Rodriguez	Present	
Maria Torres	Absent	
Open Seat		

3. **Motion to Approve the Agenda**, by Ms. Barnes, seconded by Mr. Updike, approved without dissent.

4. **Motion to waive the reading of the minutes** of the June 19th, 2023 meeting and approve as printed, by Mr. Updike, seconded by Mr. Rodriguez, approved unanimously.

5. **Civility reminder** – Mr. Corridon reminded the group to conduct civil discussion

6. **Citizen Appearances** – None

7. **Youth Center Operations**

Mr. Corridon provided an update on operations in the absence of Interim Director Olsen:

Angie hopes to get letters out to businesses the first week of September in an effort to solicit donations for Youth Center operations.

The plan is to open Tuesday, September 5th as the first day for the 2023-24 season.

Angie will not be able to attend the JC McKenna open house. Information will be made available to students.

Ducky Derby - Angie wants to make some recommendations (“helpful hints”) for next year. Ms. Barnes pointed out that we should begin planning much earlier in the spring to prepare for the July 4th event.

The derby raised about \$2500 net of prize payouts. 720 total tickets were sold of the 2000 available.

Mr. Lathrop questioned as to whether Ducky Derby tickets needed to be raffle tickets - and Members shared the general opinion that it did.

There was a question on the status of a previously discussed kickball tournament. With the originally discussed date now just a couple weeks away - it seems unlikely to happen.

Ms. Barnes suggested the Board connect with Heather Buttchen at the High School to help create awareness of Youth Center needs as high school seniors consider their graduation projects. This could be a valuable source of energy and resources.

8. New Business

Mr. Lathrop shared two donations that have been offered by community members’

- Judge Alisankus has offered a vintage juke box with vintage record collection. He believes the machine still works - though needs a cleaning. Mr. Alisankus has offered transport and up to \$200 additionally for maintenance and repair.
- Bill Hartje has offered an upright piano to the Youth center.

Ms. Olsen will need to reach out to the two parties to coordinate delivery and setup.

9. Old Business

Mr. Beedle has resigned from the Board and the City is now pursuing the search for another member.

Future Meeting Dates - reviewed the monthly 4th Monday schedule for the remainder of 2023 and came up with the following meeting dates:

- Sept 25th
- Oct 23rd
- Nov 27th

- Dec 18th

Only December deviated from the 4th Monday - as that date would have fallen on Christmas. The 3rd Monday may conflict with other city meetings, but not for members of EYC Board.

Mr. Corridon brought up the need to complete the Vision and Values work - and all agreed that is an important project. Mr. Lathrop suggested waiting until the next director is hired so that that individual can play an integral role in establishing those statements.

Mr. Corridon reported meeting with City Administrator Jason Sergeant on budget issues and shared back some of that discussion with the intent of engaging in a discussion on the Youth Center budget. Mr. Lathrop pointed out that without the benefit of seeing actual operating results it will be very difficult to make actual budget recommendations. Mr. Lathrop noted that there is no available information on how much money is spent on snacks, activity supplies or anything else for that matter.

Mr. Updike questioned the status of the budget and whether all available funds have been spent for the year - and if not - then we still have several months to take care of needed purchases.

Mr. Corridon suggested compiling a list of building needs to ensure the current facility can remain open until a new facility can be secured.

Mr. Corridon brought up grants and the need for the center to engage in the process of pursuing state and federal grants. Such financial aid may make some of the more manual processes - such as the ducky derby - less necessary.

Mr. Corridon shared that the City has approved a new position - "Recreation Coordinator." There is still some uncertainty surrounding the position - including whether it will be half or ¾ time. Ms. Olsen has already determined she will not pursue the position and will step down as Interim Director at the end of the calendar year.

Ms. Barnes asked when the city will start advertising for the new Director - that information is not currently available.

There was some discussion on the role of the Board. Mr. Corridon reported that he will work with Mr. Sergeant to help bring clarity to the group on what their role is - if it is not one of oversight. Though Mr. Corridon did suggest that the primary role of the board is fundraising.

10. **Next Meeting Date** – September 25th, 5:30 pm at the Youth Center.

11. Mr. Lathrop made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Barnes, approved unanimously - meeting adjourned.