Park and Recreation Department

Youth Commission and Entrepreneur Programs Update

Quality of Life Committee Briefing

March 28, 2007

YOUTH COMMISSION

Mission Statement

To serve as a voice for the youth of Dallas by understanding, recognizing and taking action on issues that exemplify safe, healthy, and positive youth development.

YOUTH COMMISSION

History

- Ordinance adopted creating Youth Commission on August 24, 1994
- Youth Commission created to serve as advisory body in formulating programs and strategies for Council consideration
- 15 member body appointed by Mayor and City Council

YOUTH COMMISSION

History

- Ordinance amended on January 23, 2003
- Size of Youth Commission increased to 30 members
- 15 individual appointments by the Mayor and members of the City Council
- 15 additional appointments recommended by the City Manager for approval by City Council
- Management of Commission assigned to Park Department in 2005

YOUTH COMMISSION

Qualifications

- Teens who live in the city of Dallas
- Attend a public or private school within Dallas' city limits
- Students in grades 9 through 12

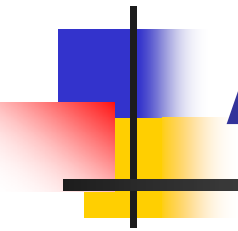
YOUTH COMMISSION

Responsibilities

- To act as an advisory body to the City Manager and the City Council
- To advise the City in the identification of youth programs that is needed in the community
- To perform other duties as assigned by the City Council or City Manager

Goals for 2006-2007

- Collaborate with other community organizations (i.e. schools, churches, corporations, other city departments, etc. in at least three community service projects
- Sponsor 2 youth led events
- Request departmental briefings on issues and projects relevant to youth



Accomplishments

Accomplishments

- District 11 Neighborhood Health and Safety Fair
  - Commissioners volunteered in April 2006 at the Neighborhood Health and Safety Fair event sponsored by Councilmember Linda Koop
  - Commissioners volunteered by registering participants and manning booths

Accomplishments

- Shaping America's Youth Town Hall Meeting
  - Commission members attended and participated in the voting process for Shaping America's Youth Town Hall meeting held April 22, 2006 at the Dallas Convention Center

Accomplishments

- Annual Youth Retreat
  - Purpose:
    - To provide youth with the knowledge and skills to become effective leaders
    - Increase student enthusiasm and commitment to youth boards and advisory councils

Accomplishments

- Community Fair at the Zoo sponsored by Councilmembers Elba Garcia and Ed Oakley
  - Commissioners volunteered for the Community Fair at the Zoo where city departments, corporations and agencies exhibited their services and distributed educational materials Commissioners handed out promotional items to citizens attending the event

Accomplishments

- Mayor’s Back-to –School Fair
  - Commissioners volunteered at the 10th annual Mayor’s Back-to-School Fair by distributing school supplies to low income students and conducting client intake on qualifying families

Accomplishments

- Community Conversation on Youth and HIV/AIDS
  - Commissioners attended the conference at Paul Quinn College, February 2006

Lean Back, Get Focused

"The 2ndCommunity Conversation on Youth & HIV/AIDS"
Get Informed And Get Involved!

Accomplishments

- Safe-Spring Break Youth Rally
  - Commissioners participated in a Spring Break Youth Rally held at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Recreation Center during Spring break, March 2006
  - Approximately 250 youth attended this event
  - Special guest appearances from Councilmember Leo Chaney Jr., Honorable Judge Faith Johnson, and others

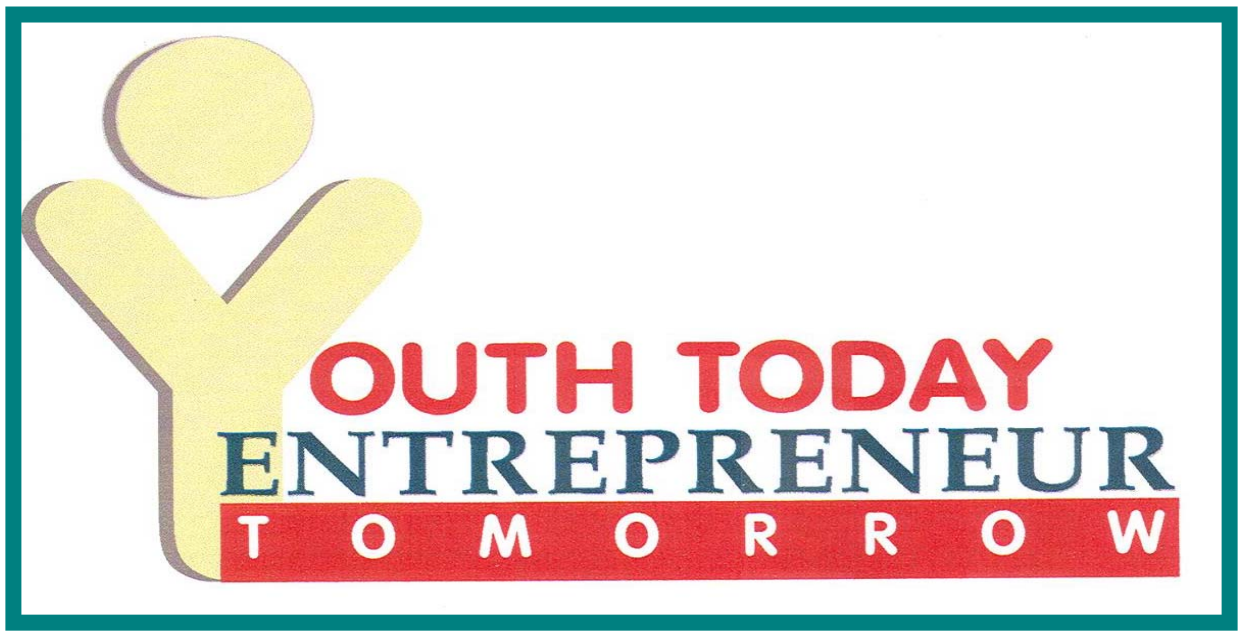
Accomplishments

- Annual Toy Drive
  - The Youth Commission Holiday Toy Drive collected more than 500 toys which were distributed to participating youth at Dallas recreation centers, December 2005
  - Youth commissioners collected toys, participated in the opening program and provided entertainment to the children who received the toys

Next Project

- National and Global Youth Service Day, April 21, 2007

Entrepreneur Program



Entrepreneur Program

- The “Youth Today – Entrepreneur Tomorrow” program was created to:
  - Provide youth with the opportunity to explore entrepreneurship as a career option
  - Teach youth how to start and maintain a small business which could lead to financial independence and personal satisfaction

Entrepreneur Program

History

- Program developed 2004
- Funded by Allstate Foundation
- Program Partner South Dallas Business and Professional Women
- Graduates to date: 89

Entrepreneur Program

Student Eligibility

- Dallas Resident
- Completed application
- One letter of recommendation
- Response to 3 essay questions
- 9th thru 11th Grade Student
  - (ages 14 thru 17)

Entrepreneur Program

Program Elements

- The program consists of:
  - Educational sessions
  - Business tour
  - Mini conference
  - Business team mentors
  - Writing a business plan
  - Producing a marketable product or service
  - Business plan competition

South Dallas Business and Professional Women's Club, Inc

CITY OF DALLAS

Entrepreneur 2006

Entrepreneur Program

2006 Outcomes

- 4 Educational Sessions
- 1 mini conference with 8 panel guest
- Business Tour of 2 businesses
- Graduation and Business Plan Competition
- 6 Business Mentors
- 25 students graduated

Entrepreneur Program

GRADUATION PROGRAM

Dallas City Hall
1500 Marilia, Auditorium L1FN
Dallas, Texas 75201
Saturday, November 18, 2006

Hosted By:
Honorable Leo V. Chaney, Jr.
Allstate Foundation
South Dallas Business and
Professional Women's Club, Inc.
City of Dallas Park and Recreation

Entrepreneur Program

2006 Program Graduates

Entrepreneur Program

Where Do We Go From Here?

- Return to summer format
- Become one of the focus programs for the Youth Development Program
- Seek sponsorship funding
- Target recreation centers for youth participants
- Hold educational sessions at various business locations for the educational sessions