



Ridgway Youth Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 8, 2021

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Town Manager Preston Neill called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. and Youth Advisory members present were Anna Bartschi, Emma Berwanger, Christian Lindler, Nerea McKnitt and Emmalee Taylor. Also present were Mayor John Clark and Town Manager Preston Neill.

2. Approval of Minutes from January 11, 2021 Meeting

Emma Berwanger made a motion to approve the Minutes from the January 11, 2021 Youth Advisory Council meeting. Emmalee Taylor seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

3. Selection of Officers

Town Manager Preston Neill explained that according to the *Authority and Procedures*, the group needs to select its own Mayor and Mayor Pro-Tem. The Mayor or, in the absence of the Mayor, the Mayor Pro-Tem, will be the presiding officer of Youth Advisory Council meetings.

Anna Bartschi nominated Emma Berwanger for the Mayor position. Emma spoke briefly about her interest in the role and why she'd be a good fit to lead the group and preside over meetings. With no other nominations put forth, a roll call vote was taken, and Emma was unanimously appointed as Mayor of the Youth Advisory Council.

Mayor Berwanger nominated Emmalee Taylor for the Mayor Pro-Tem position. Emmalee made some remarks about her interest in the role and why she'd be a good fit. With no other nominations put forth, a roll call vote was taken, and Emmalee was unanimously appointed as Mayor Pro-Tem of the Youth Advisory Council.

4. Presentation from Alex Shelley, San Miguel Power Association

Alex Shelley, Communications Executive with San Miguel Power Association (SMPA) gave a presentation on SMPA's energy efficiency and renewable energy-related programs and initiatives. Kim Wheels with EcoAction Partners was also in attendance to augment the presentation. They presented a breakdown of where SMPA's energy comes from and Alex explained how SMPA's Totally Green Program works. The Totally Green Program is an easy way for any SMPA account holder to go 100% renewable. Through the program, an account holder has the option of paying a premium for 100% renewable electricity, which is accounted for by retiring Renewable Energy Certificates from solar, wind and hydro-electric projects.

5. Discussion on YAC activities and projects

The group held a discussion about what activities and/or service projects to undertake for the remainder of their term on the Youth Advisory Council. The group decided to move forward with creating a Blog/Newsletter via the Google Blogger platform in order to share meeting summaries and activity updates with peers and the community at large. It was also decided that they want to focus on educating youth about renewable energy via a town-wide educational or advocacy campaign. The group also discussed the idea of holding a virtual meeting in the future to present findings and recommendation as part of this advocacy campaign. At the next meeting, the group will further and hopefully finalize planning efforts.

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6. Next Meeting Date and Time

The group amended the start time for the next meeting. The next meeting will take place on Monday, March 8, 2021 at 1:15 p.m.

7. Public Comment

No public comments were made.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Youth Advisory Council, Mayor Berwanger adjourned the meeting. The time was 3:20 p.m.