



**Youth Violence Prevention Executive Committee Minutes  
 February 26, 2014  
 Corcoran Park, 3334 – 20<sup>th</sup> Ave. S.**

**Members Present:** Tracine Asberry, Bianca Dawkins, Sherenia Gibbs, Councilmember Cam Gordon, Ben Knoll, Barbara McMorris, Dr. Happy Reynolds, Gene Roehlkepartain, V. J. Smith, Wokie Weah (co-chair), Darrell Young, Shane Zahn  
**Members Absent:** Titilayo Bediako, Dale Blyth, Eloisa Echavez, Jose Gonzalez, Khalid Mohamed, Mayor Betsy Hodges, Ben Knoll  
**Staff/Guests Present:** Gretchen Musicant, Diane Haugesag, Coral Garner, Dianne Haulcy, Nicole Archbold, Jared Erdmann, Julie Young-Burns, Josh Peterson, Rachel Oberg-Hauser, Evan Barnett, Olivia Walker, Sasha Cotton

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action Steps/ Discussion</u>
Welcome and Introductions	The meeting was called to order by Wokie Weah at 6:00 p.m. Introductions of members and staff were made. Nicole Archbold brought a welcome from the Mayor (who was out of town). The Mayor is very committed to the work of the Committee and integrating youth violence prevention with Police Department work. The Mayor’s 3 visions are <i>running the City, growing the City, and closing the gaps around racial disparity</i> .	
Proposed City Goals and Directions	<u>CM Gordon</u> –now chairing Health, Environment, Community Engagement committee. Also vice-chair of Safety committee. Re <a href="#">new goals and strategic directions of the city</a> : please look at and provide public comment. YVP work ties into many goals.	Let Council know if anything is missing, should be added or scaled back. (Committee members were sent the link to the goals and information about public hearing after the meeting.)
First 40 Days Update	Sasha Cotton updated members on her first 40 days. She will be traveling to DC March 2 for the National Forum meeting. She has held many community meetings, and is getting well-versed on the Blueprint. The Youth Partners conference was held February 14 and nearly 400 youth workers attended. A re-launch of the Blueprint was incorporated into this event.	
Table Talk Breakouts	Lively discussion continued in small groups. Members reported back on themes discussed. Youth activism (in community and in politics) Positive youth/adult relationships Mentoring Unity Common heritage Power of organizations Pay it forward Power of family Overcoming adversity and the adults/mentors who helped Value of education Circumstances not to repeat	

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<p>Subcommittee Conversation</p>	<p>Reviewed brainstorming ideas from November meeting. How to move these items forward? Idea of subcommittees.</p> <p><u>Gene</u> – different members have different expertise. Where is staff/committee currently doing work? Who moves to implementation?</p> <p><u>V.J.</u> -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Events are very important – imprint Blueprint into existing events. Attach onto existing events. Increase number of resources to bring to young people.</li> <li>• Police presence on committee - Important to have directive from mayor to encourage police to attend. MPD can bring most recent info on what’s going on. We can bring resources to hot spots and reduce youth violence.</li> <li>• Collaborative forum idea – of elders &amp; youth. Discussion about history. How can we as elders help you better? Bring youth together, youth organizing.</li> </ul> <p><u>Darrell</u> – Educating on social media important. Lot of crimes on Facebook. Lots of information passing on Facebook.</p> <p><u>Happy</u> – Important to have citizens working on YVP issues. Do people know how to connect to organizations? Who’s doing work? How do citizens connect youth with events going on?</p> <p><u>CM Gordon</u> – Goal 1.4 – subcommittee on policy. Would help us gain more credibility on policy issues, can weigh in on issues. Example: City’s new goals – have someone show up to speak about importance of youth violence prevention.</p> <p><u>Tracine</u> – opportunity to bring about changes. Ex. behavioral standards policy. Speaking on behalf of committee gives her backing on school board. Wants a statement to take to board.</p> <p><u>Evan</u> – different jurisdictions – what are they doing this summer for youth?</p> <p><u>Happy</u> – Can YVP have a YouTube channel? Tweet, link to Facebook.</p> <p><u>Sherenia</u> – hold forums as part of Blueprint activities. People don’t know what we do. Marketing/visibility important.</p> <p>Sasha proposed two committees – policy and implementation/ actions. Gretchen suggested Forum money could be used to work on communications and a short-term committee could help.</p> <p><u>Sasha</u> – What is our core message to community? Need to discuss. What are we doing? Special events need to start now. Communications can reside with Obj. 1.1. Policy subcommittee with Obj. 1.4 and 5.3</p>	<p>MPD has assigned leaders to each dept. – Lt. Kris Arneson</p> <p>Meeting Summary will be sent in a format to use in future school meetings.</p>

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<b>Funders Luncheon Update</b>	<p><u>Cam</u> –Subcommittees would need to report back to full committee.</p> <p><u>Gene</u> – What is <u>City</u> doing to prevent youth violence? We are supporting. We don't take credit – give to City.</p> <p>Wokie led discussion on how to engage funders. Plan is to pull together a fairly small group (12) of funders during YVP week (April 7-11). May include St. Paul, Brooklyn Park, Brooklyn Center. Who do we reach out to? Re-connect with past chairs. Reach out to groups already active – more focused on “doing” from foundations. Using the Blueprint as a frame for funders.</p> <p><u>Shane</u> – volunteer opportunities important. United Way, Youthprise – stepping up, inviting other funders to commit their resources.</p> <p><u>CM Gordon</u> – plant seeds – “if we had money, here’s what we’d do”. Unmet/expanding ideas. Need Mayor at luncheon.</p> <p><u>Gene</u> – find people to invest in this goal – bring Blueprint to them</p> <p><u>Wokie</u> - United Way will underwrite cost of food. Need venue. Suggestions include City Hall (check with Mayor), MPS admin building on Broadway.</p> <p>Want to coordinate with YVP week &amp; Mayor’s schedule.</p> <p><u>Tracine</u> – when we do our job as adults, kids can stay safe. Good message to funders. Include Target Foundation as connection.</p>	<p>Share any ideas for luncheon with Wokie.</p> <p>Link to Peacemaker Award nomination will be sent to committee (done).</p>
<b>YVP Week</b>	<p>Activities being held during April 7-11 week are funders’ luncheon, Peacemaker award, and a community event.</p> <p>SPEAKUP – Julie updated the committee. SPEAKUP is refreshing their logo, redoing ads, PSAs, posters, wallet cards, and radio spots. In the past during YVP week, MPS has put together a toolkit for schools/students of activities and sponsored the Peacemaker Award.</p>	
<b>Announcements Final Thoughts</b>	<p><u>Tracine</u> – youth are our assets; we want positive outcomes. Proactive not just reactive. Not a deficit model.</p> <p><u>Darrell</u> – What can we do as a reward for young people? Need solutions with practical rewards. What are we replacing in youth’s lives and asking them to give up?</p> <p><u>Evan</u> – Bring back some past ideas, activities for youth, ex. BBQs.</p> <p><u>V.J.</u> – Friday, March 7 is Nobel Peace Prize festival. Youthrive is coordinating. 1200 youth doing service projects. He will report back on festival.</p> <p><u>Gretchen</u> – Important for committee to know that no person under 18 was the victim of a homicide in 2013.</p> <p>Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.</p>	