



**City of Petaluma, California**  
**Youth Commission Meeting**

1 Youth Commission Meeting Minutes  
2 Tuesday, December 15, 2007 – 7:00 p.m.

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4 Youth Commissioners Present: Anne Abbott\*, Lynn Carolin,  
5 Carol Fullerton\*, Whitney Hall,  
6 Diane McNamara, and Patricia  
7 Souza

8  
9 Recreation, Music, and Parks Commissioners Present: Melissa Abercrombie

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11 Staff Present: Donnie Frank, Kevin Amaral

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13 \* Co-Chair

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15 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

16 Motion made by **Commissioner Abbott** to approve the minutes of the 11/27/07 meeting,  
17 seconded by **Commissioner Carolin**, and approved by all.

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19 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

20 None.

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22 **CORRESPONDENCE**

23 None.

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25 **COMMISSION COMMENTS AND REPORTS**

26 None.

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28 **NEW BUSINESS**

29 **1. New Structure Recommendations**

30 **Commissioner Fullerton** presented recommendations for a new structure to the Youth  
31 Commission meetings. The meetings will now be held on the second Tuesday of the month  
32 from 7pm – 9pm and will begin promptly at 7PM. Youth will be invited the Teen Council  
33 planning meetings (Jan-May 2008) to get their input and mentors will meet with them at  
34 6:30PM. The prospective youth include a Santa Rosa Junior College student, a Petaluma  
35 High School student, and a Casa Grande High School student. It was also proposed to  
36 change the format of the monthly meetings to help support the youth commission’s goal to  
37 be a working commission. Monthly meetings will now be “work sessions” ending in action  
38 items for commissioners and committees, with work to be done between monthly  
39 meetings. These changes were agreed upon by the commissioners.

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41 **OLD BUSINESS**

42 **1. Follow Up with Detective Jason Lechleiter**

43 **Abbott** reported that she had spoken to **Detective Lechleiter**, but had not heard back from  
44 him when she tried to reach him a second time.

45

1 **\*Action items: What, Who & When?**

- 2 - 1. **Fullerton** proposed sending the detective a letter thanking him for coming to  
3 speak to the commission, but asking him to wait on showing the full gang  
4 presentation until a later time.  
5 - 2. **Commissioner Hall** stated that he thought there should be a shift in the nature of  
6 the presentation; possibly connecting Detective Lechleiter with Roberto of Latino  
7 Reach Out.  
8 - 3. **Fullerton** also suggested presenting this topic to the Teen Council in the fall to see  
9 if they were interested in helping with it.

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11 **2. Teen Council Dialogue**

12 With the help of consultant **Serene Cooper**, the commission continued their dialogue on  
13 creating the new Teen Council. **Cooper** facilitated the meeting with an agenda created  
14 by the leadership committee (**Abbott, Frank & Fullerton**). The Work session included a teen  
15 council planning timeline, and a dialogue about youth voice and the appropriate  
16 composition of a teen council for Petaluma. The commission reviewed the 'Six Keys to  
17 Effective Youth Councils' and ratified the proposed timeline (see "Work Session Notes").  
18 **Melissa Abercrombie** voiced a concern about the lack of council representation in the  
19 development process. There was a discussion about council representation and a desire to  
20 invite Mayor Torliatt to a Youth Commission meeting farther along in the planning process.

21  
22 **\*Action items: What, Who & When?**

- 23 - 1. A tentative Teen Council composition was discussed. To be ratified and fine-  
24 tuned with youth input in the next three months.  
25 - 2. **Abercrombie & Commissioner Sousa** to invite youth to the January 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.  
26 - 3. Leadership committee will meet with youth prior to January 8<sup>th</sup> meeting to mentor  
27 and prep youth for authentic engagement with commissioners.  
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29 **DIRECTORS REPORTS**

30 None.

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32 **TEEN COORDINATORS REPORTS**

33 None.

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35 **ADJOURNMENT**

36 **Commissioner Abbott** made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by **Commissioner**  
37 **Carolyn** and unanimously approved.  
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