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The following are minutes for the meeting of the **City of Las Cruces Quality of Life/Education Policy Review Committee** held at 10:00 a.m. on February 19, 2019 in the Classroom at the Museum of Nature and Science, 411 N. Main, Las Cruces, NM.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

- Chairperson Councilor Kasandra Gandara, District 1
- Councilor Yvonne Flores, District 6
- David Dollahon, Assistant City Manager – Operations
- Rebecca Slaughter, Museum System Administrator
- Margaret Neill, Library Administrator
- Andre Moquin, Human Resources Director
- Kim Hanson, Museum Manager
- Robert Nunez, Rec. and Youth Services Administrator
- Elizabeth Teeters, Policy Analyst
- David Greenberg, LCPS Community Schools
- Terrie Dallman, LCPS Board Vice President

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

- Councilor Gabriel Vasquez, District 3
- Javier Amaro, Supervisor, Juvenile Citation Program
- Sonia Saldana, Senior Programs Administrator

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

- Jill Rockhill, QoL Senior Office Manager - Recording Secretary
- Sonya Delgado, Parks and Rec Director
- Jean Berlowitz, Resident
- Gregory Shervanick, Resident
- Sonya Hicks, Council Student Intern
- Cathie Fern, Resident

- I. **CALL TO ORDER (10:00 AM):** Chairman Gandara called the meeting to order at approximately 10:00 a.m. Introductions were conducted. Councilor Gandara announced that Gilbert Gil, QoL member had passed away.
- II. **APPROVAL OF THE MEETING MINUTES – DECEMBER 11, 2018:** Chairman Gandara asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Dollahon motioned to approve the minutes. Seconded by Rebecca Slaughter. Motion passed, minutes accepted as presented.

1 **III. ACTION ITEMS - NONE**

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3 **IV. CURRENT DISCUSSION ITEMS AND TASK LISTING:**

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5 **a. Youth Activities at Community Centers.**

6 Chairman Gandara introduced Robert Nuñez. Mr. Nuñez made a  
7 presentation to the Committee on the CLC "Out of School Time" programs  
8 – a place for kids to interact, socialize, recreate and learn when not in  
9 school, during after school, spring break, and summer time, etc. Mr. Nuñez  
10 reported that the after-school program has eight sites utilizing Las Cruces  
11 Public Schools (LCPS). There are 240 youth participating in the program.  
12 Additionally, there is a Weed and Seed program and Teen Connection  
13 programs. A meal is also provided for the youth in these programs. Costs  
14 run from free to \$4.60 per day, per child. There are some scholarship  
15 programs to assist with fees for some of the programs. There are also two  
16 programs at the library and the museums.

17 Ms. Margaret Neill spoke on the library "Out of School Time" programs, like  
18 Teen Hang Out – game time, Sound Sessions – guitar lessons; Library Lab  
19 – STEM/STEAM activities; Summer Reading Program – Movie making  
20 class, creative writing and crafts. All programs are well publicized.

21 Chairman Gandara expressed concern that the programs are not being  
22 publicized, and the students don't know about the Youth Board. Chairman  
23 Gandara also expressed concern that youth in the East Mesa are missing  
24 out on these opportunities.

25 Mr. Dollahon recommended staff evaluating the usage of Safe Café for  
26 more activities. The Committee discussed activities, transportation, and  
27 opportunities. Mr. Dollahon recommended a meeting with LCPS, specific to  
28 the transportation issue. Ms. Dallman, LCPS, will take that meeting  
29 suggestion to the LCPS Director of Operations. Attendees will be Mr.  
30 Dollahon, Mr. Nuñez, and Transit staff. Ms. Berlowitz commented that  
31 although much of the information about these programs is on the City  
32 website, the website is not user friendly and is difficult to navigate. Councilor  
33 Flores talked to the committee about the Star program – an in-school  
34 program for kids, the LCPS could look at. Mr. Dollahon indicated that this  
35 issue should be addressed by the Community Schools Initiative. Mr.  
36 Greenberg updated the committee on Community School (Lynn Middle)  
37 programs.

38 Ms. Hanson updated the committee on Museum "Out of School Time"  
39 Programs – Spring Break Camp; Teen Science Café (with a Teen Advisory  
40 Committee); Summer Camps (first summer camp at Railroad Museum and  
41 first art history camp this year). Chairman Gandara suggested some ideas  
42 to connect the Las Cruces Arts and Culture District with some kid activities/  
43 programs.

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45 **V. FUTURE DISCUSSION ITEMS AND TASK LISTING**

46 **a. Transit Marketing Plan**

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- b. Arts and Culture District – March 2019
- c. Resilience Presentation – March 2019

**VI. NEXT DISCUSSION ITEMS AND NEXT MEETING DATE**

- a. New Discussion items for next meeting
- b. Next meeting date: March 19, 2019

**VII. ADJOURN**



\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson

3-19-2019

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Approved