

Council Meeting of
February 26, 2008

Honorable Mayor and Members
of the City Council
City Hall
Torrance, California

Members of the Council:

SUBJECT: Community Services – Approve Youth Council 2006-2007 Annual Report.

RECOMMENDATION

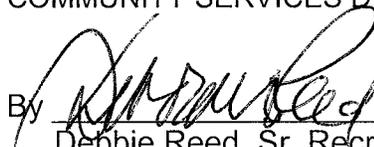
Recommendation of the Community Services Director that City Council approve the 2006-2007 Youth Council Annual Report.

BACKGROUND / ANALYSIS

The Annual Report for October, 2006 through June, 2007, as prepared by the Youth Council is attached for your information and review. The Youth Council approved this report at their meeting on February 6, 2008, and asked staff to transmit it to Council.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN JONES
COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

By 

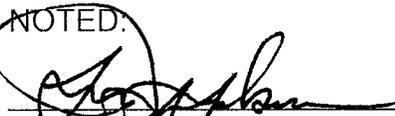
Debbie Reed, Sr. Recreation Supervisor
Liaison to Torrance Youth Council

CONCUR:



John Jones
Community Services Director

NOTED:



LeRoy Jackson
City Manager

Attachment: A) 2006-2007 Annual Report

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<p style="text-align: center;">TORRANCE YOUTH COUNCIL 2006-2007 ANNUAL REPORT</p>
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PURPOSE OF THE TORRANCE YOUTH COUNCIL

The Torrance Youth Council is composed of Torrance area high school students whose purpose is to identify and take action on problems affecting the youth of Torrance, as well as to advise and confer with City professional staff, various City Commissioners and City Council on such matters. Members are chosen each October by a selection committee and later appointed by the City Council. The Youth Council meets the first and third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex Commission Room, City Hall. All meetings are open to the public and youth are encouraged to address the Youth Council on matters of concern to the Youth in the community.

MEMBERS OF THE TORRANCE YOUTH COUNCIL

During 2006-2007, fifteen Youth Council members have continued the fine tradition of their predecessors, by representing the voice of the Youth of Torrance. New faces, different cultures, new ideas and an incredible amount of energy of these talented members played a key role in turning ideas into successful realities.

Throughout the year, this diverse assembly of young people became a close knit group which began at their Annual Team Building Workshop Retreat in early November. All of them got the opportunity to know each other through leadership games and activities. Elections were held in late November with Cheiny Shiau as Chairperson; Tommy Nguyen as Vice Chairperson; Dustin Tygret as Secretary; Christina Kang as Sergeant At Arms; Shreyasi Ghosh, and Naghmeh Ghafourian as Historians.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2006– 2007 SPECIAL EVENTS

The 2006-2007 Youth Council began a very productive year with their Annual Retreat, held at the ATTiC, and events such as the Christmas and Spring Boutiques, ASB Bowl and Joint Meeting. A joint Meeting with the City Council was held on May 22. Topics discussed at the meeting included the curfew law, increase Youth Council stipends and communication opportunities with other Youth Councils and Commissions. The 2007-2008 Torrance Youth Council Publicity Committee will focus on this topic. The Coordinating Committee will be working with the Youth Council body to discuss adding more activities/events if feasible.

At their annual "Beat the Odds Scholarship Program, five scholarships were awarded to five very deserving high school seniors. The Annual Youth Forum had representatives from each of the Torrance high schools, Bishop, CAMS and Shery in attendance to discuss topics pertinent to them. In its fifth year, was the Annual ASB Bowl which focuses on inter-school unity, where representatives from each of the high schools, and CAMS met for a get to know you evening, played competitive games, shared information, food and fun. CAMS was the winning school in 2007 and got to keep a trophy that will travel from school to school. All in attendance look forward to next year's competition.

The Youth Council continued to support the Community Services Department's Harry Sutter Memorial Turkey Trot Fun Run by pouring water, cutting and bagging oranges to be distributed among the participants after the race. Decorating the Torrance Rose Float was a highlight for some members this year. The Torrance Youth Council also assisted with set ups and serving at the Armed Forces Day Luncheon.

The Youth Council also spent time involved in Government protocol and procedures by attending City Council meetings and Commission meetings. Each member gained greater knowledge and learned how the City of Torrance operates as a government body. Additionally, they attended the Junior State of America Convention in the spring and had the opportunity to participate in discussions and debates on current issues, as well as observed a model State Congress in action which was so helpful to them as they were able to implement their knowledge when planning their Annual Youth Forum.

Youth Council continues to support The ATTiC, its events and programs such as their annual Job Faire, College Night, Ski/Snowboarding Trip, Fashion Show, Pancake Breakfast and Band Nights.

CONCLUSION

It has been a very productive year, the remaining youth council members look forward to an exciting new year by incorporating innovative ideas and goals that the new Youth Council members will bring.

Respectfully submitted,



Dustin Tygret, Chairperson
2006-2007 Youth Council