

Northglenn
Youth
Commission

2016 Annual Report



CITY OF
Northglenn
YOUTH
COMMISSION

BOARD of DIRECTORS

Meetings The Youth Commission Board of Directors holds a meeting on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Northglenn Recreation Center. The first meeting of the month is a formal business meeting; the second is a working meeting. Agendas and minutes, along with other board documents, can be found at www.northglenn.org/NYC. All Youth Commission meetings are open to the public. Youth who are interested in joining the Youth Commission, or those that just have an idea to share, are encouraged to attend.

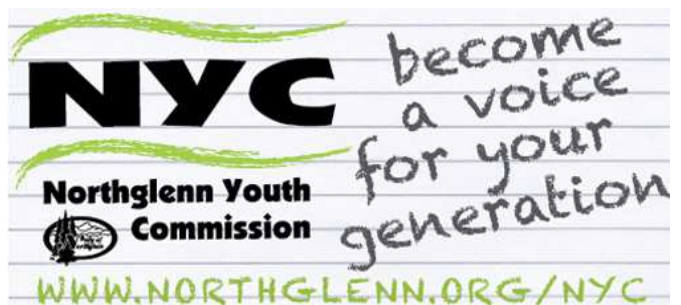


Join the Board There are currently seven openings on the Board of Directors. To be eligible, interested youth must be between the ages of 13 and 18, and live in Northglenn or attend school in the Adams 12 Five Star School District. Application sare available on the city's website at www.northglenn.org/nyc.



Current Members There are eight seated Youth Commissioners. Youth Commissioners serve one-year terms, any member in good standing may be reappointed for consecutive terms.

- Savannah VanDuyn, President
- Allie Donnici, Vice President
- Mariah Witkowski, Secretary
- Peyton Larsen, Vice Secretary
- Chandler Sanchez, Treasurer
- Natalie Grambart, Board Member
- Cindy Ornelas Rodriguez, Board Member
- Trinity Waldman, Board Member



New Members This year, the board welcomed three new members— Trinity Waldman, Cindy Ornelas Rodriguez and Natalie Grambart. We also said goodbye to Connor Mercer, Isabelle Cunis, Taylor Wilpolt and Megan Smith. Thank you for your commitment to making our community a better place for youth!



Quarterly Updates

In 2015 the Youth Commission began providing updates to the City Council at regular City Council meetings once each quarter. This was done in an effort to improve communication between the Youth Commission and the City Council members.

Each quarter throughout 2016, two Youth Commissioners provided the Council with a verbal update regarding new projects or volunteer work that had been completed, and an overview of any upcoming events. A written annual report is provided in place of the fourth quarter report.

Mayor on the Move: Youth Edition

The summer kicked off with a bang as Youth Commissioners were eager to get the general public's opinion on what they saw in Northglenn's future. What better way to accomplish this goal than to talk to real people about their real wants and concerns at Mayor on the Move.

Mayor on the Move is the informal summer event in which community members of Northglenn are invited to talk about the city with the mayor, Joyce Downing. The Youth Commission worked with the city's communications staff to prepare to co-host a special gathering, *Mayor on the Move: Youth Edition*. The event took place at the new and improved Larson Park on Tuesday, July 12, 2016.

During the event Northglenn Youth Commission members asked dozens of community members various questions from, "What businesses do you have to see in Northglenn?" to "What do you love best about Northglenn?" The commission received much needed input about the audience's wants, which included requests for more trash cans in parks, unsupervised kids at parks, developing a mutual respect between youth and adults, improving parent involvement, youth mentoring, job/career fair opportunities, and a stronger social network presence.

After helping clean up the event the Youth Commission discussed and used this valuable information when establishing their goals later in the year. One of those goals is to work with the Adams County Education Consortium to provide youth input to the staff who host the Adams County Career Expo. The first work session on this topic will be on Tuesday, April 4. Another goal is to utilize social media to engage youth in order to (1) better understand youth how youth see Northglenn today, and the Northglenn they envision in the future and (2) create better outreach to adults in the community to showcase how youth are contributing to the community. This project kicked off in February with a workshop on the effective use of social media. The Youth Commission is looking forward to completing these two projects in the coming months.



COMMUNICATION & OUTREACH



FIELD DAY

A field day was hosted by the Youth Commission on Monday, July 18. This event was developed by the Youth Commission to encourage youth to be physically active and to participate in fun, safe, and supervised activities. The field day was put on for Roving Rec and Day Camp participants. The event would not have been possible without the help of the summer camp staff members! Events included slip and slide kickball, minute to win it games, various tag games, and relays to help inspire teamwork through being active. The day was finished with a movie and face painting when a thunderstorm rolled through. Everyone involved had a great time and it was very beneficial to the youth commission to see how involved kids want to be in activities provided for them.



HEAL SUPPORT

The City of Northglenn joined the Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) Cities and Towns campaign in 2014. As a part of its introduction a committee was formed that works with both Live Well Colorado and the Colorado Municipal League. They have recently developed a vending and concessions proposal to increase the number of healthy food options offered by The City of Northglenn, as well as decreasing the amount of unhealthy food options. This includes options offered in vending machines and public recreation areas such as the Recreation Center and Kiwanis Pool. The unhealthy options will gradually be removed, and will be replaced by healthier options. A taste test was even conducted so the HEAL committee could have a better idea of which options Northglenn residents preferred to have available to them. The Northglenn Youth Commission was asked to give their input on this proposal. After meeting with a representative, asking questions, and discussing the proposal, the Youth Commission chose to move forward with a recommendation to fully support the proposal moving forward.



PROJECTS



VOLUNTEERISM



PAINT-A-THON

Last June, Youth Commission had the opportunity to participate in the Brother's Redevelopment Paint-A-Thon for the second time. Along with several Northglenn Staff members, we painted the outside of a senior resident's home. An entire day was devoted to painting the exterior of this resident's home. All paint and supplies were contributed by Brother's Redevelopment. Everyone worked very hard to paint the home and had some fun along the way as well.

The entire opportunity provided us with yet another chance to reach out and give back to the community we live in. The Youth Commission's goal that day was to give back to our community in more diverse ways. We look forward to doing just that each year we are able to work with Brothers Redevelopment and the Paint-A-Thon program.

VETERAN'S MEMORIAL FLOWERBED

In 2007, the Northglenn Youth Commission decided to adopt a flower bed as a way of showing appreciation for the services that our veterans have given. The Youth Commission re-committed themselves to the flower bed in 2016. They worked together with Partners with Parks throughout the season. The Youth Commission was responsible for planting the flowers in the spring, weeding out the bed during the summer, and eventually cleaning the bed out in the fall so that it would be ready for following year. The flowers planted this year included white flowering ornamental cabbage, red salvia and blue ageratum. The beautifully colored flower bed sits at the south west corner of E.B. Rains Jr. Memorial Park, greeting everyone all through the Summer.



RELAY FOR LIFE

As the 2016 summer came to a close the Youth Commissioners decided to continue their annual participation in the 12-hour relay around Northglenn's very own E.B. Rains Memorial Park. The event was held on September 9. This year Youth Commissioners not only participated in the relay like last year, but they also attended the event hours earlier to help get ready for the event, setting up signs around city hall, drawing posters, and methodically placing hundreds of Luminarias (personalized lanterns dedicated and/or in honor of those with cancer) around the perimeter of Webster lake. The Youth Commission raised over \$1,000 to donate to the Relay for Life, in support of their mission to find a cure for cancer.



July 4th Festival

Once again the Youth Commission woke up bright and early to volunteer at the July Fourth Fireworks & Flapjacks Four Mile race. The youth commissioners assisted with water stations, providing water to runners at mile markers one and three, and also helped with the clean up after the race. Over 100 runners and walkers of all ages took part in the event. Proceeds provided financial support for the Northglenn Community Foundation's Utility Assistance Program.



National Night Out

On Tuesday, August 2, the Youth Commissioners attended National Night Out block parties alongside Northglenn police officers and other public officials. This event was a great opportunity to tell people in the community what the Youth Commission is all about, and for each of the Youth Commissioners to visit with local residents of all ages about their concerns or ideas to improve the city.



EVENT SUPPORT

Safe Street Halloween

In October, the Youth Commission had a great time dressing in costumes while helping over 1,000 kids, and some parents, decorate cookies. All of the kids enjoyed decorating the sugar cookies with frosting and sprinkles, then eating the treats. Overall the event was amazing, it's incredible to see how many people participate as well as all the creative costumes. The Youth Commissioners are pleased to help support the Northglenn Police Department for over 12 years



Noel Northglenn

In December, the Youth Commission volunteered once again at Noel Northglenn. They helped out with the pickle game and the greeting card station. Members also worked in the craft room, helping attendees make gingerbread houses and paper gingerbread men. Once the night was over, the Youth Commissioners helped pack up the crafts and clean up the event.



