

ORDINANCE NO. 4033

AN ORDINANCE to amend Title 12 (EDUCATION, SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELFARE) by re-adopting Chapter 13 (YOUTH POLICY COMMISSION), all of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended.

WHEREAS, city council established the Youth Policy Commission by Ordinance No. 3952 in September 1997; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 3952, as amended by Ordinance No. 3962, had a sunset provision whereby the Youth Policy Commission would automatically expire on December 31, 1998; and

WHEREAS, by virtue of this sunset provision, the Youth Policy Commission expired on December 31, 1998; and

WHEREAS, city council wishes to re-establish the Youth Policy Commission and to make its re-establishment effective January 1, 1999; now therefore,

THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. That Title 12 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended, be, and the same hereby is, amended by the re-adoption of Chapter 13, which was originally adopted by Ordinance No. 3952 and amended by Ordinance No. 3962, but which, by virtue of the sunset provisions in said ordinances, expired on December 31, 1998, to read as follows:

Chapter 13

Youth Policy Commission

Sec. 12-13-1 Creation of commission; designation as youth services citizen board.

There is hereby established a commission to be known as the Youth Policy Commission (hereinafter referred to in this chapter as the commission). This commission is designated and authorized to act as the city's youth services citizen board for purposes of section 66-29 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended.

Sec. 12-13-2 Composition; appointment; terms; chairperson and officers; committees.

(a) The commission shall consist of 19 members, 18 of whom shall be voting members and one a non-voting member. Ten of the voting members shall be citizens, two shall be from community non-profit agencies that have an interest in youth issues, four shall be from the public sector, and two shall be from city boards or commissions or other organizations which have an interest and involvement with youth. The majority of the members of the commission shall not be elected officials or employees of a public or private service agency that provides services to the city's youth. The non-voting member shall be a judge from the juvenile and domestic relations court, as determined by the chief judge of that court.

(1) Citizen members. These ten members shall be appointed by city council and shall be city residents. They shall consist of: three parents of children 18 years of age or younger, one of whom shall be a resident of school board election District A, one of whom shall be a resident of District B and one of whom shall be a resident of District C (see section 12-1-4); two individuals eighteen years or younger; two representatives of the business community; two members of professions which require special training or knowledge in issues affecting youth; and one individual who has an interest in issues affecting youth in the city. The terms of the citizen members shall be three years and shall be staggered.

(2) Community non-profit agency members. These two members shall be appointed by city council and shall be city residents. They shall represent non-profit community agencies that have an interest in youth issues. The terms of these members shall be three years and shall be staggered.

(3) Public sector members. These four members shall be the mayor, the commonwealth's attorney, a member of the school board designated by the board, and a member of the public health advisory commission designated by the commission. The mayor and the commonwealth's attorney shall serve on the commission for so long as he holds office. The other two public sector members shall serve terms of three years which shall be staggered.

(4) Members from city boards or commissions or other organizations. These two members shall be appointed by city council, and shall be residents of the city who are members of city boards or commissions, or of other organizations, which, in the course of performing their duties and functions, come into significant contact with the city's youth or which otherwise have an interest in youth issues. The terms of these members shall be three years and shall be staggered.

(b) The commission shall elect from among its voting members a chairperson and such other officers as it deems necessary.

Sec. 12-13-3 Relationship to the early childhood commission and the interagency consortium on adolescent pregnancy.

(a) The early childhood commission, which is responsible to city council for developing program, policy and service recommendations for children up to eight years of age, shall provide input into the commission's overall planning and coordination for youth.

(b) The interagency consortium on adolescent pregnancy, which is responsible for coordinating activities that seek to prevent adolescent pregnancy and to support adolescents who are parenting, shall provide input into the commission's overall planning and coordination for youth.

Sec. 12-13-4 Meetings; quorum; rules of procedure;
annual report.

(a) The commission shall meet at least once a month during the months of September through June, and may meet at such other times it deems necessary or desirable. All voting members of the commission present at a meeting shall be entitled to vote, and the decisions of the commission shall be determined by a majority vote of such members present and voting. A quorum, which shall consist of at least 50 percent of the non-vacant seats on the commission (excluding the seat occupied by a judge of the juvenile and domestic relations court), shall be required in order for the commission to transact business. A member eligible to vote who is present but does not vote shall be considered in counting a quorum.

In matters concerning the procedure for meetings not covered by this chapter, the commission may establish its own rules, provided such rules are not contrary to law or the mandate or spirit of this chapter. Otherwise, the rules of procedure set out in Robert's Rules of Order shall apply.

(b) The commission shall submit to the city council each year a written report of its activities. The report shall also address the matters described in section 12-13-5(b), and may address other matters relating to the city's youth that the commission may choose to make.

Sec. 12-13-5 Functions and duties.

The functions and duties of the commission shall be as follows:

(a) to submit to city council a vision for youth well-being in the city;

(b) to submit to city council an annual report which shall include, but not be limited, to

(1) a plan of action to carry out the commission's vision for youth, which shall include priorities;

(2) an analysis of the outcome of youth program and services measured against indicators of youth well-being; and

(3) recommendations regarding city funding for youth programs and services;

(c) to review progress toward meeting the commission's vision and plan of action by:

(1) monitoring the programs and services that are available to the city's youth to determine their effectiveness in meeting the established priorities; and

(2) holding public hearings, when deemed necessary, to obtain input regarding youth issues from the general public; and

(d) to coordinate responses from and among appropriate city and non-city organizations to emerging and existing issues affecting the city's youth.

Sec. 12-13-6 Staff assistance.

The director of human services shall be responsible for providing staff support to the commission to assist it in carrying out its functions and duties.

Section 2. That this ordinance shall be effective on January 1, 1999.

KERRY J. DONLEY
Mayor

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First Reading: 1/26/99
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