

# TOWN OF FAIRFAX STAFF REPORT

**TO:** Mayor, Members of the Town Council

**FROM:** Michael Rock, Town Manager  
Judy Anderson, Town Clerk



**DATE:** July 7, 2010

**SUBJECT:** Discussion/Consideration of a proposal for the provision of youth services in Fairfax via FOCAS

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**Recommendation:**

Approve of the proposal submitted by Camille Esposito for the provision of youth services in Fairfax via FOCAS (Fairfax Open Circle Arts)

**Discussion:**

Ms. Esposito has created, staffed and provided wonderful programs to the children and families of Fairfax. She has dedicated many hours to her efforts with very little financial support from the Town. The overwhelming success of the winter childrens' playgroup at the Pavilion and the sustainable camp for children last summer are examples of her success. With the suggestions from the Youth Commission and the use of the Measure I funding, great things can happen for our youth in Fairfax. The revitalization of the Youth Commission is very timely as she is looking forward to working with the Town and the Commission to provide more programs for teens. She has already been growing programs to benefit the community and has worked closely with San Anselmo's Recreation Department to increase offerings in Fairfax. Now that she has established an office at the Pavilion and has a proven record of success, the timing is perfect to acknowledge her accomplishments and to formalize her relationship with the Town.

**Fiscal Impact:**

If approved, Camille Esposito will be a part time employee of the Town paid \$25/hour for a minimum of ten hours per week and a maximum of 20 hours per week with no benefits. The use of the \$18,000/year dedicated by the voters to youth services will support this salary and the costs of the programs planned.

**Attachment:**

- A proposal from Camille Esposito for the programs planned
- A budget for the programs

AGENDA ITEM # 20

# Fairfax Youth Services Development

**Goal** - Establish programs that are local to Fairfax utilizing the Women's Club, Pavilion, Youth Center/Community Center and Ball Field. Emphasis on affordability and nurturing the culture that is unique to Fairfax.

## Current Youth Services:

### **Families, Babies**

**and Toddlers** –Provide support to new families as they adjust to life with young children. Connect in moms groups and support thru play groups.

**Pre school** – provide affordable, creative classes for early education for families that may or may not be enrolled in a preschool program.

Currently offering: Fun and Funky Art

Community Music Class

### **Summer Activities for school age children**

Camp Fairfax – local, affordable, “old school” Summer camp. allows local kids to explore the nature in Fairfax and stay close to home. Less commuting = earth friendly. (Ages 5-10)

Drop in art and photography classes inspired by nature.

### **Summer Activities for Pre/Teens**

Counselor in Training (C.I.T.) program for 12-15 year olds

## Programs in Development:

**Dance** – affordable options for children and adults in the Pavilion

**CPR Training** – Affordable, local training for members of the community

### **Pre teen and Teen Activities**

We will work with the Youth Commission to establish more teen activities that are in line with their needs and interests.

CPR training for babysitting

The Youth Commission will start a drop in movie night at the Youth Center for Middle and High school students. We will have a paid chaperone as well as parent volunteers to supervise. We will offer pizza and refreshments.

We will purchase a DVD player to connect to the large screen TV.

Open Mic – poetry and musical performances at the Community Center

We have already redecorated the interior of the Community/Youth Center and plan to continue to adapt the décor to suit the needs of the programs we are implementing.

### **Special Events**

Establishing clear goals for renting town facilities for events  
Adapting the rental application for easy access  
Creating a section of the website dedicated to a photo gallery of past events.

**Party Packages** that will include art classes, Pavilion tumbling using the equipment from the playgroup, and other themes as they become available.

This will allow local families to have parties in town and bring revenue to the town to support our wonderful buildings.

### **Family Music Concert Series**

We successfully hosted a concert with Susan Z last year. This will become a quarterly concert series with different musical artists.

### **Budget**

The Youth Fund is \$18,000 per fiscal year. FOCAS and the Youth Commission propose the use of the fund for both fiscal year 2009-2010 and 2010-2011.

**See attached budget summary for the first year of operation.**

Each program will be fundraising to work towards sustainability in the coming years:

FOCAS - \$2,000 Family Concert Series and Sustainable Fairfax Craft Faire

Youth Commission - \$1,000 Source TBD

Skate Park Group - \$1,000 Source TBD

## **Program Implementation**

With the approval of the Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC) and the Town Council, both FOCAS and the Youth Commission will be funded as of July 1, 2010 and the programs will be offered accordingly.

In addition to the above proposal, we will build programs based on the availability of qualified instructors and the needs of the community.

## **Summary**

Thank you for considering this proposal. We look forward to working with the PARC and the Town of Fairfax to create a strong program that serves our community on many levels for years to come.