

Tuesday, November 14, 2023
Mayor's Youth Council Meeting
6:00 PM Town Hall Room 217



1. Meeting Opening

- a. Chair Sarah Granquist called the Mayor's Youth Council to order at 6:01PM
Present council members include: Daphne Brewer, Ava DellaFera, Kushal Gauli, Francesca Giordano, Sarah Granquist, Oliver Hartmann, Joseph Landino, Kikoh Mordukai, Charlotte Mullin, Isabelle Mulready, Alexis Nguyen, Moh Palanki, Evan Piccioli, Grace Piccioli, Abby Sanderson, Priya Shinde, Rudra Singh, Priya Sinha, Liam Wright, and Catherine Zehr.

Absent members: Adam Gold, Ailani Roach, and Caeli Sullivan

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. Minutes were approved.

3. School Reports

- A. Conard
 - a. Hall vs. Conard football game, many athletic events, Homecoming
- B. Hall
 - a. Veterans Day concert, NHS blood drive, Chicago musical
- C. Kingswood Oxford
 - a. School play, choreographer showcase, week off for Thanksgiving and midterms after two weeks

4. Chair & Subcommittee Reports

- A. Chair
 - a. No reports
- B. Secretary
 - a. none
- C. Social Media
 - a. none
- D. Outreach / Recruitment
 - a. none
- E. Holiday Giving Committee
 - a. none
- F. Mental Health Committee
 - a. Joe Landino - Spoke with Kelly Waterhouse from the Town of West Hartford Department of Social Services about assisting with the West Hartford Prevention Partnership Coalition
 - b. This group addresses the issues of mental health and substance abuse
- G. Political Activism Committee
 - a. none

5. Old Business

- A. Potential Collaborators for Impact Projects
 - a. Mrs. Karp reviewed potential collaborators for the mental health subcommittee including local author Kate Mcloughlin ([This Is What Unbreakable Looks Like](#)), SEPTO & Devorah Heitner ([Growing Up in Public](#)), and the West Hartford Prevention Partnership Coalition Chair Sarah recommended partnering with organizations around town for the Holiday Giving Project (to organize donations)
- B. West Hartford Libraries Kindness Project November 13 - December 8
 - a. Mrs. Karp gave an update on WHPL's Library Kindness Project
 - b. Donation boxes are filling very well
 - c. A new Amazon wishlist system set in place and is being utilized
 - d. Recommendation to have boxes in each school (Hall - library, Conard - main office or library, Kingswood Oxford - school only allows two fundraisers a month, so permission would be required); other areas recommended, such as the St. James church, grocery stores, and/or the Elmwood Community Center

- e. People put in charge (Hall - Francesca, Conard - Evan, Kingswood Oxford - permission required, Lox Stock & Bagels - Charlotte, St. James - Sarah, Big Y - Priya Shinde, Elmwood Community Center - ?)
- f. Mrs. Karp explained the December 16 sorting event

6. New Business

A. MYC Meeting Dates 2024-2025

- a. Mrs. Karp presented the proposed meeting dates for the 2024-2025 council
 - i. December 12, 2023
 - ii. January 16, 2024
 - iii. February 13, 2024
 - iv. March 5, 2024
 - v. April 16, 2024
 - vi. May 28, 2024
- 2024-2025 Dates:
 - i. September 10, 2024
 - ii. October 15, 2024
 - iii. November 12, 2024
 - iv. December 3, 2024
 - v. January 14, 2025
- b. Sarah motioned to approve the 2024-2025 MYC meeting dates, Evan seconded
Vote: For: 20, Against: 0

B. Administrative Details

- i. Agendas and Minutes
 - a. Secretary Rudra Singh said to keep agendas and minutes kept on website
- ii. Budget
 - a. Chair and Mrs. Karp presented spreadsheet of MYC spendings (will not be kept on website) and explained expenditures on shirts and other supplies
 - b. No rollover money, so all money should ideally be spent
- iii. Calendar

- a. Chair presented a Google Docs calendar she made and shared with all members
- iv. Group Photo
 - a. Mrs. Karp postponed the group photo to the December meeting due to missing members
 - b. Chair recommended a request to take the group picture in Council Chambers
- v. Shared Folder for MYC Photographs
 - a. Council made recommendations on where to organize council related documents
 - b. Secretary will set up a Google Classroom
 - c. Pictures should be taken at meetings and subcommittee events
 - d. Photos may also be shared in the group chat
- vi. Shirts
 - a. Chair asked if MYC would like to purchase or create its own shirts
 - b. Moh proposed having each person on the council bring in 5 dollars to offset the cost
 - c. Francesca knows owner of Fresh Ink and can get deal on pricing
 - d. Council will determine design - original logo or new logo
- C. Teen Social Events
 - a. Chair asked for recommendations on social events for engagement and reviewed examples from other councils
 - i. Priya shinde - "sweet potluck," montage
 - ii. Francesca - spikeball event (gift card prize)
 - iii. Mrs. Karp - bonfire night (w/ spikeball), movie night (w/ possible donations)
 - iv. Moh - something like the Holiday Stroll, outreach event
 - b. Social events will happen, but will likely be determined at the next meeting
 - c. Spikeball was the most popular social event option
 - i. Suggested time frame - Moh suggested after midterms, in the spring
 - ii. Suggested locations - high schools, elementary school fields, Fernridge Park, Eisenhower Park, Elizabeth Park
 - iii. Suggested program idea - Kikoh suggested a tournament with the top 5 teams from Hall and Conard, for high school students only
 - iv. Other ideas - Moh suggested a cash prize and collaborating with sports teams; Joe and Francesca recommended selling snacks/drinks/baked goods as a fundraiser; Mrs. Karp asked about adults vs. teens, teachers vs. students; Kikoh recommended a ticket system; Sarah spoke about requiring a fee or nonperishable food item to participate

7. Announcements

- a. Work session took place from 7:00PM - 7:30PM
- b. Card for Mrs. Waxman
- c. West Hartford Immigrant Teens “Training active Bystanders” training 11/15

8. Adjournment

- a. Motion to adjourn was made by Sarah seconded by Priya
- b. Meeting adjourned at 6:55PM
- c. Work session in subcommittees took place 7-7:30PM
- D. Ideas were not shared due to lack of time but will be discussed during the next meeting’s subcommittee reports

Work Session: Tuesday, November 14 7-7:30 Town Hall Room 217

Next Meeting: Tuesday, December 12, 2023 6-7PM Town Hall Room 217