

Tuesday, March 5, 2024
Mayor's Youth Council Meeting Minutes
6:00 PM Town Hall Room 400



1. Meeting Opening

A. Call to Order

- Chair Sarah Granquist called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM

B. Pledge of Allegiance

- Pledge taken at 6:03 PM

C. Roll Call

- Present: Daphne Brewer, Francesca Giordano, Sarah Granquist, Joseph Landino, Charlotte Mullin, Isabelle Mulready, Alexis Nguyen, Moh Palanki, Abby Sanderson, Priya Shinde, Priya Sinha, Caeli Sullivan, Rudra Singh
- Absent: Ava DellaFera, Ailani Roach, Kushal Gauli, Adam Gold, Oliver Hartmann, Liam Wright
- Late Arrival: Evan Piccioli, Grace Piccioli, Catherine Zehr

2. Approval of Minutes

- Council approved all meeting minutes at 6:04 PM

3. School Reports

A. Conard

- Musical opening this weekend, previews going on right now
- Parent-teacher conferences

B. Hall

- Pops N' Jazz season

C. Kingswood Oxford

- Two-week break after this week

4. Chair & Subcommittee Reports

A. Chair - None

B. Secretary - None

C. Social Media - None

D. Outreach / Recruitment - None

E. Holiday Giving Committee

- No reports right now

F. Mental Health Committee

a. PHACTT Grant Update

- Grant project completed

b. NAMI Fundraiser

- \$205 was raised
- MYC should try to donate the money within the week
- We should try to get a photo opportunity with the Executive Director, similar to the Adopt-a-Family photos with the Social

Services Department

G. Political Activism Committee

a. Voter Registration Drive in Blue Back

- 6 total MYC members signed up to be trained to work at the polls
- No response relating to reserving Blue Back Square for a teen voter registration event (waiting for warmer weather)
- Thinking about using social media to make the event more interactive

5. Old Business

A. Shirts

- Mrs. Karp revealed the new MYC shirts created by Victor Advertising Service
- Shirts to be distributed at the end of the meeting

B. Outreach: Teen Skate Night and Teen Wellness Fair

- Sarah opened up discussion for the MYC table at the Teen Skate Night

a. Volunteers

- ~6-7 council members have already signed up to volunteer

b. Outreach Materials

- Have a QR code that will lead to the MYC Instagram page
- Possibility of handing out some sort of candy with advertising with the MYC page
- Possibility of having games to win a small prize with advertising
- Give away Pops N' Jazz tickets as a prize (potentially)
- Sarah, Mrs. Karp, and Francesca offered to purchase candy to use as prizes
- Council noted that some students may not have Instagram
- After the Skate Night, Mrs. Karp will send out a separate Google Form for the Teen Wellness Fair
- Two adults in charge of the Teen Skate Night will not be present, so there is a possibility that Mrs. Karp will be in charge

c. 2024-2025 Applications

- Council members answered questions to reflect on their time on the council
- Responses were summarized onto a Google Slide to prepare for the upcoming meeting with Mayor Shari Cantor
- Advertise towards eighth-graders and also to parents through Facebook
- Socialization activities where MYC can interact with the community themselves (possible fundraiser?)

6. New Business

A. Mayor Visit April 16 Meeting

a. Talking Points

- Sustainable CT is a group that is trying to increase the environmental sustainability of West Hartford
- They reached out to the Library Director about more environmental projects from the MYC and other town committees

b. Questions for the Mayor

- Last meeting was fall of 2021
- Give a presentation with a slide for each committee and each officer
- Talk about projects from previous years (one slide)
- Pre-written questions
- Ask if there is anything that she knows the town may need help with

B. Recruitment for 2024-2025

a. Personal and Group Reflection

- Discussed as part of Old Business

b. Group Size

- 8 current seniors graduating
- 23 current members
- 15 members left next year
- Two members (Daphne and Sarah) have reached their term limit, meaning that if no changes are made to terms, there will be 13 people left on the council next year
- Shorten maximum number of members to 21

c. Term Limits

- Term was originally 2 years, but reapplication was allowed at the

end

- Various members gave their opinions on the options for term limits:
 - Joe: Let somebody have a fourth year, but remove the automatic second term
 - Moh: Have a third year to maintain big contributors
 - Sarah: Most important thing is that people have to reapply if they are in their second or third year
 - Evan: There should be a third-year maximum with no reapplication in order to maintain new members
 - Kikoh: Three-year terms but limits should be maintained to ensure a consistent flow of new opinions
- Will vote on term limits at the next meeting

d. Candidate Qualifications

- Preferential treatment to underclassmen due to a lack of freshmen and sophomores
- Preferential treatment to students from other schools
- Have a certain percentage of the council be from KO, Hall, and Conard
- Skills and interest; preference to students that have already volunteered and taken initiative in community projects
- Search for people that are very involved with their schools
- Possible no freshman rule → Only allow sophomores and up
- Possible stricter process for freshman
- Weigh the interviews much more in the process
- Continue using senior members in the interviews
- Ensure that qualifications for volunteering and experience still matter

e. Application Changes

- Instituting an attendance requirement
- Increasing the frequency of meetings
- More meetings during the holidays

f. Recruitment Strategies

- Will be discussed at the next meeting

7. Announcements

A. Teen Skate Night March 8 7-8:30PM Veterans Skate Rink

B. Teen Wellness Circle March 12, 20, 27 & April 3 5-5:45PM Noah

Webster Library

C. West Hartford Prevention Partnership Coalition Meeting March 14 4-5PM
Town Hall Room 217

D. Teen Wellness Fair March 23 1-4PM Hall High School

8. Adjournment

A. Adjourn

- Meeting adjourned at 7:08, seconded by Francesca and Kikoh

Work Session: Tuesday, March 5, 2024 7-7:30 PM Town Hall Room 400

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 16 16, 2024 6-7 PM Town Hall Room 400

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