

Mayor's Youth Council Special Meeting
Tuesday, September 10, 2024 6:00 PM Town Hall Room 312



1. Meeting Opening

- A. Staff liaison Kari Karp called the Mayor's Youth Council to order at 6:02PM. Present were council members Santiago Ballestas, Allison Chen, Ava DellaFera, Jack Fitzgerald, Adam Gold, Zuri Freeman, Oliver Hartmann, Anthony Hubbard, Meghan Jo, Anaya Lal, Joseph Landino, Sebastian Latif, Dylan Meer, Isabelle Mulready, Alexis Nguyen, Moh Palanki, Grace Piccioli, Abby Sanderson, Alina Singh, Rudra Singh, Caeli Sullivan, Madeline Valentin, Laila Zaffou, and Catherine Zehr. Guests: Gretchen Leviz, West Hartford Prevention Coordinator.

2. New Business

- A. Old and new members introduced themselves.
- B. Meeting structure was discussed.
- C. The group reviewed Mayor's Youth Council's 2023-2024 accomplishments, including: (1) Adopt-a-Family, (2) Beans for Basketball, (3) poll working, (4) NAMI fundraising, (5) The Kindness Project, and (6) Teen Skate Night.
- D. 2024-2025 subcommittee themes were announced, including: (1) food insecurity, (2) mental illness, and (3) holiday giving.
- a. Subcommittees of no more than 12 members will organize community service projects based on these themes.
 - b. MYC members will have a chance to suggest additional projects throughout the year, if desired.
 - c. Subcommittee chairs will be the point people for their impact projects and will:
 - i. manage projects
 - ii. schedule virtual or in-person subcommittee meetings

iii. give updated reports at MYC meetings as needed

d. Proposed projects and initiatives include: (1) Adopt-a-Family, (2) mental health workshops, (3) poll working, (4) Teen Leadership Conference, (5) YA Forum, (6) food drives, (7) Skate Night, (8) Kindness Project, (9) NAMI Walk, (10) Light Up Green for Mental Health Month.

3. Announcements

A. Teen Leadership Conference

- i. There will be a series of workshops for student leaders in grades 9-12 on September 20.
- ii. Peer Health Awareness Community Teen Taskforce campaigns will be featured.
- iii. MYC members should register before September 13 to reserve a spot

B. YA Forum

- i. Alexis and State Representative Kate Farrar are organizing an event at the Noah Webster Library on October 9.
- ii. MYC members will be given information about how to participate.

C. New October Meeting Date

- i. Mrs. Karp motioned to vote that MYC changes the date of the October MYC meeting due to many student activity conflicts, Moh seconded.

Vote: For: 21, Against: 3

- ii. The date will be changed from Tuesday, October 15 to Wednesday, October 16 6-7PM in Town Hall.

- 1. Room will be announced soon.

D. Elections

- i. Mrs. Karp announced that elections will take place October 16 and shared the open positions (chair, co-chair, secretary, subcommittee chair, social media chair, and outreach / recruitment chair).
- ii. On 10/16, candidates will read short speeches and members will vote using a single ballot. During a recess, votes will be counted and the group will reconvene to announce winners.
- iii. Officers will begin their new roles starting on the date of the election.

- iv. Members will be given a Google form to announce their intention for running for an officer position and their names will be added to the ballot.

4. Adjournment

A. Adjourn

- i. Motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Karp, Adam seconded.
- ii. The vote to adjourn the meeting was anonymous.
- iii. The meeting was adjourned at 7:07PM.

Next Meeting / Election: Wednesday, October 16th 6-7PM West Hartford Town Hall