

**Wednesday, March 18, 2026**  
**Mayor's Youth Council**  
**Meeting 6:00PM in Town Hall Room 217**



**1. Meeting Opening**

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- a. Anaya called the Mayor's Youth Council to order at 6:02PM.
- i. **Present:** Lyla Fisher, Jack Fitzgerald, Zuri Freeman, Maddie Geraghty, Anaya Lal, Sebastian Latif, Dylan Meer, Emmanuala Mordukai, Carlotta Patroni, Noah Sadowsky, Caeli Sullivan, Sue Tiky, Ana Veriienko, and Joanna Zheng. **Guests:** Tracey Weiss, West Hartford LIFE
  - ii. **Absent:** Allison Chen, Celia Filotto, William McCullough, Alina Singh, and Laila Zaffou.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

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- a. Amendments
- i. Motion to approve the March 18, 2026 minutes was made by Anaya; Sebastian seconded.
  - ii. The minutes were approved.

**3. Guest Speaker**

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- a. William McCullough was unable to attend the meeting to discuss his school lunch initiative.

**4. School Reports**

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- a. Conard  
b. Hall  
c. Kingswood Oxford
- i. Members mentioned events happening at the various schools.

## 5. Officer Reports

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- a. Chair
  - i. Alison
    - 1. Not present
- b. Co-Chair
  - i. Anaya
    - 1. Anaya has been updating Google Classroom
    - 2. MYC officers met last week to review progress on impact projects
- c. Secretary
  - i. Emmanuala
    - 1. No report
- d. Outreach
  - i. Zuri
    - 1. Sebastian and Ana attended Screenagers at Bristow on 3/19 and set up a MYC table
- e. Social Media
  - i. Maddie
    - 1. No report

## 6. Subcommittee Reports

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### A. America250

- a. Anaya
  - I. The WeHa the People essay contest deadline was extended to 4/11
  - ii. The subcommittee is completing round one judging for the essay contest by 4/30
    - a. Thank you to Joanna for being the first subcommittee member to judge
  - lii. All MYC members will be given the top 5 middle and high school essays on 5/20 and will meet 5/27 5:30-6:30 to select the top 3 final winners that will be announced at Celebrate West Hartford 6/6
  - Iv. The America250 virtual panel Transitions: What We Gained, What It Cost is happening 4/30. Registration is on the

Library website

## **B. Food Insecurity**

### a. Mrs. Karp

1. Foam checks and donation money were presented at Conard and Hall on 4/9
2. Hall's funds will go to the existing food pantry and Conrad is creating a new Conard Cupboard to distribute snacks to students
3. A Hartford Deportation Defense Diaper Drive is happening at Noah Webster Library during the month of April
  - a. Thank you to Eleanor from Teen Advisory Board for decorating the donation box and Fabiana and Lucas from Immigrant Youth Advocates for creating the poster

### c. Sustainability

#### i. Sebastian

1. Sebastian attended the Climate Change Talk at Town Hall on 3/25. The program was recorded and is available on WHCi's YouTube channel.
2. MYC members can sign up for the Elmwood Clean-Up event happening on 5/16 via Sign Up Genius.
  - a. Volunteers will meet at the Faxon Library parking lot at 9AM.
  - b. Clean up materials will be provided.

## **7. New Business**

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### A, Celebrate West Hartford

- a. The America250 subcommittee will plan how essay contest winners will be announced 6/6
  - i. Winners will be notified ahead of time
  - ii. Winners and honorable mentions will be given certificates and possibly feather quill pens as a small gift
  - iii. A booklet of essays will be available in the Local History Room at the library later in the year and may be posted online
  - iv. MYC members will volunteer to distribute the awards

### B. MYC 2025-2026 Achievements and Areas of Improvement

#### a. Achievements

- i. Bake Sale at Lox, Stock & Bagel for the school food pantries
- ii. Elmwood Clean Up

- iii. Subcommittee chair and officer leadership
- iv. Communication
- v. Google Classroom
- vi. Community partnerships (America250, library, town, Fern Street Food Ministry)
- b. Areas of Improvement
  - i. Members should sign up and participate more
  - ii. Last-minute communication
  - iii. Need a color-coded group calendar
  - iv. Need more projects, do more outreach
  - v. Should go to elementary schools to speak to younger students and hear their concerns
  - vi. Spread more awareness
  - vii. Do more legislative advocacy (advocating for policies, testifying, legislation and lobbying workshops, talk to Town Council, create a legislative subcommittee)
  - viii. Publicize more
  - ix. Do more surveys in the schools, collect data

## 8. Announcements

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- a. Immigrant Youth Advocates held a successful fresh food drive for Hartford Deportation Defense helping 30 local families

## 9. Adjournment

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- a. Motion to adjourn was made by Anaya; Sebastian seconded.
- b. The vote to adjourn the meeting was anonymous.
- c. The meeting was adjourned at 7:03PM.

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 27th, 2026 5:30-7:30PM in Town Hall Room 217  
(5:30-6:30PM America250 Essay Contest Voting, 6:30-7:30PM Meeting)**