



CITY YOUTH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

June 2, 2021

CALL TO ORDER:

The City Youth Council met virtually, in accordance with State and Federal guidelines designed to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. by Chairperson Olivia Northrup.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Victoria Uchendu, Blair Arkles, Maya Saxton, Olivia Northrup, Hayden Beatty, Brian Huynh, Kelli Higgins, Chloe Chapparo, Gray Connor, and John Willis.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Maurice Imhoff and Bethsemame Williams.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

A motion to adopt the agenda was made by Councilmember Arkles and seconded by Councilmember Saxton. Vote – Yeas: Councilmembers Uchendu, Arkles, Saxton, Northrup, Beatty, Huynh, Higgins, Chapparo, and Connor. Nays: none. Motion carried.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

None.

APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

A motion to approve the April and May meeting minutes was made by Councilmember Chapparo and seconded by Councilmember Huynh. Vote – Yeas: Councilmembers Uchendu, Arkles, Saxton, Northrup, Beatty, Huynh, Higgins, Chapparo, and Connor. Nays: none. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

The Council nominated and elected a chairperson for each of the committees.

1. **Board Development Committee:** Councilmember Higgins was elected as chairperson.
2. **Eco-Friendly Activity Committee:** Councilmember Saxton was elected as chairperson.
3. **Youth Event Planning Committee:** Councilmember Uchendu was elected as chairperson.

4. **Nominating Committee:** Councilmember Northrup was elected as chairperson.

A motion to approve the committee chairs and committee selections was made by Councilmember Saxton and seconded by Councilmember Arkles. Vote – Yeas: Councilmembers Uchendu, Arkles, Saxton, Northrup, Beatty, Huynh, Higgins, Chapparo, and Connor. Nays: none. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

GOALS:

The Youth Council set tasks for their 2021 goals and objectives.

1. To reduce the amount of waste in Jackson
 - a. Reduce the use of single-use plastic bags
 - i. Promote reusable bags
 - ii. Partner with local grocery stores
 - b. Address rate of tree removal
 - i. Connect with the Environmental Commission
 - ii. Connect with NEO on future plans for forestry
 - c. Green Awareness Outreach
 - i. Visit a recycling plant
 - ii. Educate others about recycling in Jackson
2. Increase the number of youth-oriented activities
 - a. Music Concerts/festivals for youth
 - i. Connect with DDA (Cory Mays)
 - ii. Connect with Steve Tucker on possible events
 - iii. Connect with Bright Walls (Jacqueline Austin)
 - iv. Connect with Kelli Hoover about Parks Events
 - b. Youth involvement in attracting businesses
 - i. Connect with Scott Fleming
 - ii. Make a list of youth oriented businesses
3. Increase local and national affiliations
 - a. Join MML/NYC organizations/Create a Youth Council Liaison/Social Media Page
 - i. Maurice Imhoff and Hayden Beatty named as liaisons
 - ii. Board Development reach out to affiliated organizations
 - b. Attend Board Development/Leadership Conferences and Training Sessions
 - c. Seek virtual training opportunities until physical training available

4. Address racism

- a. Murals addressing racism
 - i. Contact Bright Walls to get an Artist
 - ii. Contacting Local Artists
- b. Short media messages
 - i. Email to other local groups on what they're doing on subject
 - ii. Record video and audio messages for TV and radio
 - iii. Contact minority businesses about opportunities at Youth Council Events

5. Addressing mental health issues

- a. Educating the community on the link between racism and mental health
 - i. Connect with Lifeways/HFH about mental health opportunities
 - ii. Promote Mental Health Awareness inside school systems
 - iii. Connect with "Sources of Strength" coordinator about collaborations
 - iv. Connect Mental Health/Cyber-bullying with internet resources/social media pages

NEW BUSINESS:

The Youth Council nominating committee scheduled an interview for a new applicant. The interview is scheduled for June 10th at 11:00am. A motion to approve the interview date and time was made by Councilmember Saxton and seconded by Councilmember Uchendu. Vote – Yeas: Councilmembers Uchendu, Arkles, Saxton, Northrup, Beatty, Huynh, Higgins, Chapparo, and Connor. Nays: none. Motion carried.

NEXT MEETING:

The next Youth Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 7, 2021 at 10 a.m. via Zoom.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

There were no commissioner comments.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilmember Saxton and seconded by Councilmember Chapparo. Vote – Yeas: Councilmembers Uchendu, Arkles, Saxton, Northrup, Beatty, Huynh, Higgins, Chapparo, and Connor. Nays: none. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 11:07am.