



Youth Council Meeting Minutes - October 19, 2022

Item 1 | Call to Order

- Vanessa Westlake called the meeting to order at 12:33 PM.

Item 2 | Attendance

- Ahmed Othman, Ali Atoui, Elizabeth Menjivar, Juliana Spaulding, Madeline Naper, Matthew O'Brien, Paige Arkinstall, Sadie Lominac, Thomas Berinato

Item 3 | Public Comment

Item 4 | Approval of Meeting Minutes from October 3, 2022

- Clerk Ali Atoui gave a summary of the meeting minutes from October 3, 2022.
- Elizabeth Menjivar motioned to approve the minutes, and Ahmed Othman seconded. The meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

Item 5 | Liaison Updates

- Catherine Dhingra said that all members should have received a member introduction with their liaisons. If they don't hear from their liaisons, a follow up email should be sent. The goal is to establish contact by the next meeting.

Item 6 | Wakefield Town Day Debrief

- Chair Vanessa Westlake gave a debrief of how Town Day went for the Youth Council and how it was a successful event.
- Madeline Naper updated the council on what occurred during the event, noting the interest in younger youth and parents about the Youth Council. Madeline also stated some of the things that people wanted to see the Youth Council take part in.
- Ahmed Othman, another volunteer at the event, concurred with what Madeline explained. Ali Atoui also agreed.

Item 7 | Hygiene Care Project Update: Paige

- Paige Arkinstall began by explaining that she and Catherine Dhingra met with Jacqueline Powers, who is a library representative, and after explaining their initiative, Ms. Powers said that it would be difficult to implement at the library due to space constraints and potential



acts of vandalism. Paige then suggested to Ms. Powers having the organization On Flow fund having feminine hygiene products in the library, which Ms. Powers said she would do. Paige suggested that the Youth Council could fund the costs for the first year, then work to add it to the library's annual budget.

Item 8 | Liaison Spotlight Update: Juliana - Safe Streets Working Group

- This item was moved to be after Item 5 on the agenda.
- Juliana Spaulding presented on the Safe Streets meeting she went to, and largely spoke about how they went at Town Day. She mentioned Safe Streets had a bike valet service, which was successful. She also spoke about Safe Streets having four more events spread across the different upcoming seasons. Safe Streets desires to have volunteers for these events, but more planning is required. Safe Streets also had a workshop later the day of the meeting at 6:30PM about safe transportation.
- Catherine Dhingra asked if they mentioned anything about safe routes to school, and Juliana Spaulding said that they noted on the start of school, but not much else about the topic. Catherine Dhingra suggested following up with Safe Streets about where the Youth Council had left off with the group in regards to recommendations from the past term.

Item 9 | Communications

- Ali Atoui said that he does not have any Communications updates but a meeting will be scheduled for the subcommittee soon.

Item 10 | Determine Next Meeting Date

- Catherine Dhingra said that a Doodle Poll will be used to schedule the next meeting.

Item 11 | Other Business Not Reasonably Anticipated

- Catherine Dhingra brought up the Veterans Day Clean Up initiative, and multiple council members said they supported returning the event this year. Ali Atoui, Ahmed Othman, Alla Othman, and Madeline Naper stated they would help with planning the event. Ali Atoui said that he would set up a Communications/Outreach Subcommittee meeting to plan the event with the interested council members.
- Vanessa Westlake asked when the new members will be joining the council, and Catherine Dhingra and Johnathon Chines explained that the next Town Council meeting will handle appointments, and the new Youth Council members will likely join the full-council next meeting.
- Jonathan Chines updated the council on the Master Plan meeting going on and the new high school project taking place. He said that the town will be bringing back Wakefield 101, which is an event for new Wakefield residents; the Youth Council does not have a table this year, but could have one next year.
- Madeline Naper suggested moving the time for the half-day meetings to be earlier, and there was general agreement with this. Catherine suggested having the meeting at 11:45AM to also accommodate for the middle school council members.

Item 12 | Adjournment

- Madeline Naper motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Paige Arkininstall seconded. The meeting was adjourned unanimously.