



Youth Council Meeting Minutes - January 11, 2023

Item 1 | Call to Order

- Vanessa Westlake called the meeting into order at 11:52 a.m.

Item 2 | Attendance

- Ahmed Othman, Ali Atoui, Alla Othman, Elizabeth Menjivar, Juliana Spaulding, Madeline Naper, Matthew O'Brien, Maya Palic, Olivia Wall, Paige Arkinstall, Sadie Lominac, Sofia Panighetti, Thomas Berinato

Item 3 | Public Comment

Item 4 | Approval of Meeting Minutes from December 21

- Clerk Ali Atoui gave a summary of the meeting minutes. Paige Arkinstall motioned, with Ahmed Othman seconding, to accept the minutes; they were unanimously approved.

Item 5 | Youth Action Team: Later School Start Times

- After some comments and discussion, Vanessa Westlake motioned that the Youth Council will support and endorse the Youth Action Team's later school start times proposal. The motion unanimously passed.
- It was suggested that a Youth Council member could join the YAT in their presentation to the School Committee's policy subcommittee.

Item 6 | Liaison Spotlight: Police Department

- Olivia Wall gave a presentation on her liaison, the Police Department. She spoke about the discussion she had with Chief Skory, highlighting how social media impacts police cases, additions to health classes about social media safety, and involving the police department in these discussions.
- Catherine Dhingra suggested setting up a meeting with both Mr. Kent and Mr. Gianatassio regarding this in conjunction with Officer Malone.



Item 7 | Liaisons Updates

Item 8 | Snow Angels Project

- Catherine Dhingra stated that the number of seniors who applied to the program has grown, and that more youth volunteers (14) are needed. She asked that Youth Council members think about who could fill these roles.

Item 9 | OSRP Presentation

- The two representatives from the Horsley Witten Group, hired by the town, gave a presentation on the Open Space and Recreation Plan to the Youth Council. Explanations of what OSRP is and the various factors affecting it were given, and subsequently there was a discussion among the Youth Council members and the presenters about open and recreational spaces in Wakefield. Favorite places, ways in which the town does a good job at offering recreational and open spaces, ways in which the town could improve, popular events, and methods of outreach were discussed.

Item 10 | Communications Sub Committee Update

- Ali Atoui gave an update on what the subcommittee has been working on, particularly Madeline Naper linking the social media accounts, creating a Posting Calendar to begin regularly posting, and the new high school project. In addition, there will be a post about MLK and CSK Day going up, and the subcommittee will be posting about Teen Dating Violence Awareness month. QR codes and promoting followership and viewership would also be encouraged. The Youth Interest Survey is also in progress to be distributed to the general student body.
- Madeline Naper added that she is still missing several meet the members post images.

Item 11 | Announcements

- Vanessa Westlake noted that there is a WHRC event for MLK Day at the Galvin Middle School.
- Catherine Dhingra stated that she still has not received sweatshirt sizes from everyone, and that progress is being made on them. A discussion on customization ensued.

Item 12 | Determine Next Meeting Date

Item 13 | Other Business Not Reasonably Anticipated

Item 14 | Adjournment

- Ahmed Othman moved to adjourn, and Paige Arkinstall seconded. The meeting was adjourned unanimously.