Stockbridge

Where Community Connects

Youth Council Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda

January 21, 2025 6:30 PM

STOCKBRIDGE

YOUTH COUNCIL

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Dr. Alfreda Renee Gourdine, Chair

Vacant, Vice-Chair

Joc'Quelyn Carter, Treasurer

Sharika Zellars, Student Liaison

Dr. Samuel Valme, Secretary

Valerie Richmond-Reese, Parliamentarian

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Tykera Goins

Paige Jones III

Kaitlynn Nash

Dr. Thomas Smith

STAFF LIAISON

Cassandra Lester

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Stockbridge

Where Community Connects

AGENDA
YOUTH COUNCIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2025 6:30 PM

I. Call to Order

1. Invocation Followed by Pledge
2. Roll Call
3. Approve Agenda
4. Approve December 17th Meeting Minutes

II. Old Business

5. Area Beautification
6. SYC/AC Attendance
7. Upcoming 2025 First Quarter Calendar Events
8. Open AC Board Positions: Vice Chair/ Student Liaison

III. New Business

9. Budget Review
10. GMA Youth Forum Selected Attendees
11. 2nd Annual Youth Entrepreneur Expo
12. Select Chair for Upcoming Events

IV. Adjourn

The Youth Advisory Council Committee is to make recommendations to Council based on the following Terms of Reference.
1. To identify and advise on youth issues in the City of Stockbridge.
2. To advise Council on the development of policies that are responsive to the needs of youth.
3. To consult with local youth and feedback results of consultations to Council.
4. To assist in the ongoing development and delivery of youth-targeted projects and programs.
5. To create opportunities for youth leadership development by acting as a resource for youth activities.

Note: This Committee meets monthly on selected dates.

Stockbridge Youth Council Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
December 17, 2024

I. Call to Order

A. Quorum was met and the meeting was called to order at 18:37
B. Invocation led by Paige Jones III
C. Roll Call
   1.

Roll Call		Members Absent:
Dr. Renee Gourdine		Sharika Zellars
Joc'Quelyn Carter		Dr. Bonita Adams
Dr. Samuel Valme		Kaitlynn Nash
Valerie Richmond-Reese		Tarreka Powell
Dr. Thomas Smith		Shawana Davis
Paige Jones III		

D. Pledge of allegiance: recited in unison
E. Approve Agenda
   a) Motion: Joc'Quelyn Carter
   b) Second: Paige Jones III
   c) In Favor: All present
   d) Oppose: None
   e) Abstain: None
   f) Motion carried
F. Approve **9/17/2024** SYC Meeting Minutes
   a) Motion: Valerie Richmond-Reese
   b) Second: Joc'Quelyn Carter
   c) In Favor: All present
   d) Oppose: None
   e) Abstain: None
   f) Motion carried

II. Officers and City Staff Reports

A. The Chair noted the importance of adhering closely to the agenda, particularly regarding Officers' and City Staff Reports. Moving forward, the Chair will check for any updates or information the city needs to share with the board. For example, this could include opportunities such as the Mayor inviting the board to participate in a city holiday event or other activities relevant to youth engagement. These updates will be reported here to ensure the board remains informed about city initiatives and events that could benefit or involve the youth.

III. Old Business

A. Area Beautification
   1. The Chair emphasized the need for increased participation in area beautification efforts, as previous group structures (Group A and Group B) were short-lived. Currently, the advisory committee members have been

the primary participants, and the Chair suggested finding ways to alleviate the burden on them. Dr. Valme has agreed to oversee Friday beautification efforts in coordination with Ms. Valerie. This adjustment accommodates students who cannot participate on Saturdays. Previously, a Friday session was held but was not needed as no students expressed interest. Moving forward, if weather conditions become extremely cold during winter, the group will collectively decide via text whether to proceed with scheduled beautification efforts.

2. Allocate funding to support the purchase of 50 black caps with the SYC emblem embroidered on the front for the students and Advisory members.
    a) Motion: Dr. Samuel Valme
    b) Second: Valerie Richmond-Reese
    c) In Favor: All present
    d) Oppose: None
    e) Abstain: None
    f) Motion carried

B. Vacant Advisory Committee Leadership Position
1. The Chair noted two vacant leadership positions on the Advisory Committee: Student Liaison and Vice Chair. Ms. Sharika Zellars stepped down as Student Liaison due to her new employment but plans to increase her activity on the board by the beginning of the year.
2. Ms. Valerie asked if the Chair would consider requesting the City Council to assign new members directly into leadership roles.
    a) The Chair responded that such appointments would require a board vote.
    b) The Chair mentioned a recent meeting with Cassandra, where one proposal included allowing the board to interview potential new members.
3. Joc'Quelyn Carter suggested asking the city for volunteers to assist with board functions.
4. The Chair shared that the Mayor requested her to address attendance issues in line with the bylaws. A memo will be sent to students and parents, warning of possible removal from the Youth Council due to lack of participation. Persistent absenteeism will be brought to the board for a vote.
5. Paige Jones III offered to help review attendance matters.
6. The Chair emphasized adherence to the bylaws, noting that three missed meetings could result in removal.
7. Dr. Samuel Valme proposed posting an attendance roster to display students' attendance percentages for the school year. He volunteered to assist with maintaining the roster.
8. The Chair agreed to send memos to parents for transparency and emphasized the importance of not allocating funds to students—particularly seniors—who fail to participate actively.

C. Past Calendar Events 4th QTR
1. The Chair provided a summary of events for the fourth quarter (October–December):
    - The board supported a Fall Festival and hosted a retreat on September 30th.
    - Additional activities included assisting Councilwoman Barbara with decorating Christmas ornaments for seniors and preparing pouches for elementary schools. Students also filled Christmas stockings for

a holiday event.

2. Joc'Quelyn Carter inquired about the protocol for additional events, specifically whether all events must be communicated through Liaison Councilman Berry and Cassandra and limited to one event per councilmember.
3. The Chair confirmed that communication should go through Cassandra and Councilman Berry, and additional events must be voted on via text or GroupMe.
4. Paige Jones III recommended identifying a clear process and leveraging technology where necessary.
5. Valerie Richmond-Reese suggested creating a separate GroupMe channel for the advisory board to review and vote on additional events.
6. Dr. Thomas Smith proposed discussing the protocol with Cassandra and sharing the outcomes with the board for further action.

IV. New Business

A. Bylaws Attendance Requirement
   1. Recommend removal of three board members who are in violation of the Monthly meeting attendance policy per the Article V of the by-laws. Those members are Bonita Adams, Shawana Davis and Tarreka Powell.
      a) Motion: Paige Jones III
      b) Second: Dr. Thomas Smith
      c) In Favor: All present
      d) Oppose: None
      e) Abstain: None
      f) Motion carried

B. Upcoming 2025 First Quarter Calendar Events
   1. The Chair noted the need for a budget update, estimating a remaining balance of $3,000. The goal for the next fiscal year (FY) is to zero out the budget.
   2. Two activities were missed this FY:
      a) Walking in Authority Forum (Clayton County) – missed due to late notice.
      b) Holiday Party – $500 was allocated for hosting the event.
   3. A discussion on budget allocations and execution will take place during the January meeting.
   4. Valerie Richmond-Reese inquired about potential expenditures for the February Youth Forum.
      a) The Chair clarified that GMA registration is not yet open and there are also associated hotel costs.

C. GMA Youth Forum – February 2025
   1. GMA Youth Forum: Scheduled for February 28 – March 2, 2025.
      a) 5 students will attend.
      b) Discussion on selection criteria for student participants.
      c) Two advisory board members are required to attend.
         (1) Valerie Richmond-Reese volunteered.
   2. Dr. Valme proposed using attendance as a primary factor for selecting students.

V. Executive Session (if needed)

A. Not required

VI. Adjourn

A. Motion: Paige Jones III
B. Second: Dr. Samuel Valme
C. In Favor: All present
D. Oppose: None
E. Abstain: None
F. Motion carried
G. Adjourned at 20:10