



**STOCKBRIDGE
YOUTH COUNCIL**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Dr. Alfreda Renee Gourdine, Chair

Joc'Quelyn Carter, Treasurer

Sharika Zellars, Student Liaison

Dr. Samuel Valme, Secretary

Valerie Richmond-Reese, Parliamentarian

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Ayesha Gambles

Tykeria Goins

Dr. Elyssa Green

Candis Jones

Paige Jones III

Georgia McIntyre

Dr. Thomas Smith

STAFF LIAISON

Cassandra Lester

**Youth Council Advisory
Committee
Meeting Agenda
March 18, 2025 6:30 PM**



STOCKBRIDGE CITY HALL

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AGENDA YOUTH COUNCIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2025 6:30 PM

I. Call to Order

1. Invocation Followed by Pledge
2. Roll Call
3. Approve Agenda
4. Approve February Meeting Minutes

II. Old Business

5. SYC March Meeting Minutes
6. 2nd Annual Youth Entrepreneur Expo Update
7. Area Beautification - Friday Option
8. SYC Senior Banquet
9. SPC and SYC Dinner and Discussion

III. New Business

10. Place Making Grant Program
11. SYC Leadership - Upcoming Openings
12. SYC Recruitment
13. SYC/AC Summer Break

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
February 18, 2025**

I. Call to Order

- a) Quorum was met, and the meeting was called to order at 18:33

1. Invocation led by Dr. Thomas Smith

- Pledge of Allegiance: recited in unison

2. Roll Call

Roll Call		Members Absent:
Dr. Renee Gourdine	Georgia McIntyre	Sharika Zellars
Joc'Quelyn Carter	Paige Jones III	
Dr. Samuel Valme	Ayesha Gamble	
Valerie Richmond-Reese	Candis Jones	
Tykera Goins		
Dr. Thomas Smith		

3. Approve Agenda

- a) **Table Item #10** – Postpone discussion of the January SYC minutes until the next meeting.
- b) **Add Item #13** – Include the budget under New Business.
- a) Motion: Joc'Quelyn Carter
 - b) Second: Dr. Samuel Valme
 - c) In Favor: All present
 - d) Oppose: None
 - e) Abstain: None
 - f) Motion carried

4. Approve 12/17/2024 SYCAC Meeting Minutes

- a) Motion: Paige Jones III
- b) Second: Dr. Thomas Smith
- c) In Favor: All present
- d) Oppose: None
- e) Abstain: None
- f) Motion carried

II. Old Business

5. Area Beautification

a) Area Beautification:

- Scheduled for the second Saturday of each month, weather permitting.

b) Leadership Retreat:

- Valerie Richmond-Reese will oversee the retreat.
- The first retreat is held when new students are accepted, typically in July.
- Their first meeting is in August, and a retreat is traditionally held in February for team-building and municipal education.
- Due to scheduling conflicts in October, the board considered March 8, 2025, as an alternative date.

c) Venue Selection:

- A space is needed for 14 students and the advisory committee.
- Last year's planned venue, the Fairview Library, was unavailable due to a citywide shutdown, and the police station was used instead.
- The board agreed not to assume the police station is always an option.
- Dr. Thomas Smith suggested requesting approval from the police chief for venue use.

d) March 8, 2025 Schedule:

- Area Beautification: 8:45 AM – 10:15 AM
- Leadership Retreat: 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM
- Location: Smith Barnes Elementary School, 147 Tye St, Stockbridge, GA 30281
- Dr. Samuel Valme recommended not scheduling area beautification the day before the retreat to prevent conflicts.

6. SYC/AC Attendance

a) Commitment to Participation:

- Madame Chair reminded the advisory committee of their sworn commitment to actively participate in Youth Council events.
- Madame Chair emphasized the importance of honoring their oath of office and referenced December 17, 2024, minutes, which noted several member's absences and removal.
- While the committee acknowledges that life commitments may arise, members who find themselves unable to fulfill their duties are encouraged to step down so that someone with the necessary availability can take on the role.
- Former members are always welcome to return when they are able to commit.

b) Meeting Format & Schedule:

- Valerie Richmond-Reese reminded Madame Chair that, per the bylaws, meetings are in person and not virtual.
- A quorum must be present in person for meetings to proceed.
- Advisory committee meetings will continue to be held at 6:30 PM.

7. 2025 First Quarter Calendar

a) Black History Month Program

- Councilman Thomas traditionally leads this initiative. However, he is currently hospitalized.
- Joc'Quelyn Carter informed the council that the event may be removed from the calendar, and members will keep him in their prayers.

b) Women's History Month Program

- This program is typically organized with Councilman Alexander's involvement.
- The Chair has not yet received any updates and will provide further information as soon as possible.

8. GMA Youth Forum

- Madam Chair provided an overview of the GMA Youth Forum, an event organized by the Georgia Municipal Association (GMA). The forum serves as a platform for young individuals participating in city youth councils across Georgia to connect, exchange ideas, learn about leadership, and discuss issues affecting their communities with fellow youth council members and city officials.
- Each year, we are permitted to send five students to the GMA Youth Forum, accompanied by two chaperones. This year's participants are:
 1. Keyani Furtch
 2. Ananya Augustine
 3. Laylah Simpson
 4. Gavin Bradley
 5. Mackenzy Edwards
- The selection of students was based on criteria such as attendance, performance, and participation. Preference was also given to students who did not attend the forum in the previous year. The registration fee for both students and chaperones are \$150.00, which has already been paid. The two chaperones for this year's event are Dr. Renee Gourdine and Valerie Richmond-Reese.

- The GMA Youth Forum will take place from February 28, 2025, to March 2, 2025. Following the event, the chaperones will provide an event report during the next meeting.

III. New Business

9. Welcome New AC Members

- Members introduction

10. Review SYC Minutes January/February 2025

- Postpone discussion of the January SYC minutes until the next meeting.

11. Second Annual Youth Entrepreneur Expo

- Second Annual SYC Youth Entrepreneurial Expo
 - **Date:** March 29, 2025
 - **Location:** Clark Park (inclement weather backup: Merrill Manders Conference Center).
 - **2024 Recap:**
 1. Over 30 vendors participated.
 2. Paige Jones III noted the event's success and suggested improvements for 2025.
 - **Vendor Invitations:**
 1. Returning vendors were invited via email. So far, one response has been received.
 2. Vendors have until February 28, 2025, to confirm participation before new vendors are invited.
 - **Vendor Fees:**
 1. Last year's event was free for vendors.
 2. This year, a \$7 per table fee is proposed (standard rates are \$20–\$25).
 3. Joc'Quelyn Carter explained that collected fees will be turned over to the city and allocated to a separate funding line, not the annual budget.
- Vendor Selection Process
 - The Chair reviewed the city's vendor list and requested assistance in contacting potential vendors for participation.
 - Food trucks are a priority, but selection will be strategic to avoid competition between vendors (e.g., ensuring lemonade vendors are not placed alongside food trucks selling similar items).
 - A final vendor list will be reviewed and finalized at next month's meeting.
- Event Data Collection & Planning

- Tykera Goins asked how event data is being collected to improve future event planning. She inquired whether attendance is tracked or if there is a record of who participates in the events.
- Valerie Richmond-Reese emphasized the importance of data tracking to measure event success. She noted that the goal is to increase participation by 15%, but without data from the previous year, it is difficult to assess progress. She suggested implementing post-event surveys to gather insights, including vendor sales, as a measurable indicator of event impact.
- Paige Jones III agreed to bring the garden games again.

12. 2025 Second Quarter Calendar

- **Madame Chair outlined the following:**
 - April is traditionally led by Councilwoman Barbra, who organizes the Mother's Day Tea.
 - On April 15, 2025, at 6:00 PM, we will host the Stockbridge Police Department Dinner/Forum. This will be the event's third year, and we aim to invite more external students. A budget for this event will be voted on in next month's meeting.
 - The Senior Banquet will require assistance, and we are seeking a Chair and Co-Chair to lead the event. This year, we plan to modify the approach by using participation and attendance as criteria for distributing Senior Banquet baskets. Further discussion will take place in our next meeting.
 - Dr. Samuel Valme raised a potential conflict with the April 15, 2025, banquet date. Madame Chair suggested using the March meeting to finalize the logistics and budget for the Senior Banquet.

13. Budget

- a) Second Annual SYC Youth Entrepreneurial Expo Budget: \$3000.00
 - \$600 – Tables
 - \$400 – Food
 - \$1000 – Supplies
 - \$600 – Incidental
 - \$400 – Food truck
 - a) Motion: Dr. Samuel Valme
 - b) Second: Candis Jones
 - c) In Favor: All present
 - d) Oppose: None
 - e) Abstain: None
 - f) Motion carried
- b) Leadership Retreat Budget: \$6000.00 with an itemized account of actual expenditures.
 - a) Motion: Dr. Samuel Valme

- b) Second: Georgia McIntyre
- c) In Favor: All present
- d) Oppose: None
- e) Abstain: None
- f) Motion carried

c) Purchase of 50 black beanies with the SYC emblem embroidered Budget: Not to exceed \$450.00.

- a) Motion: Dr. Samuel Valme
- b) Second: Georgia McIntyre
- c) In Favor: All present
- d) Oppose: None
- e) Abstain: None
- f) Motion carried

d) Motion amended for the Purchase of 50 black beanies with the SYC emblem embroidered Budget: Not to exceed \$500.00.

- a) Motion: Dr. Samuel Valme
- b) Second: Paige Jones III
- c) In Favor: All present
- d) Oppose: None
- e) Abstain: None
- f) Motion carried

IV. Executive Session (if needed)

- 1. Not required

V. Adjourn

- a) Motion: Dr. Samuel Valme
- b) Second: Joc'Quelyn Carter
- c) In Favor: All present
- d) Oppose: None
- e) Abstain: None
- f) Motion carried
- g) Adjourned at 20:38