

FORT PIERCE YOUTH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Fort Pierce Youth Council - Thursday, January 18, 2024 - 4:00 p.m. City Hall - 2nd Floor Conference Room, 100 North U.S. #1, Fort Pierce, Florida

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Reese Adams, Chairperson Iyonee Allen, Deonna Davis, Janessa Davis, Tenelia Garner, Bryanna Gore, Vice Chair Tyanna Gore, 2nd Vice Chair Veronica Hypolite, Kashylla Wood arrived at 4:11pm

Absent: Janessa Diaz, Cody Ingram

Staff Present: Special Projects Coordinator Audria Moore, Executive Assistant to City Manager Jennifer Robinson

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

a. Approval of 11/30/23 Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Vice Chair Tyanna Gore, seconded by Chairperson Iyonee Allen to approve the minutes of the November 30, 2023 meeting.

All members were in favor. Motion passed.

4. **ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Motion was made by Deonna Davis, seconded by Vice Chair Tyanna Gore to approve the Agenda as set.

All members were in favor. Motion passed.

5. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Any person who wishes to comment on any subject on this Agenda may be heard at this time. Please limit your comments to no more than five (5) minutes, as this section of the Agenda is limited to thirty minutes. The Youth Advisory Committee will not be able to take any official action under "Comments from the Public" section.

6. **OLD BUSINESS**

a. Youth Award Recognition

Ms. Moore informed the members that the nomination form for the Youth Award Recognition Program has been completed and is available online. A news release will follow. Nominations will be received from January through March. Each nomination form will be reviewed by the members and assigned a score. The ones that receive the highest scores will be recommended to the Commission for presentation. The awards will be presented at the last meeting in June.

The Youth Council needs to discuss what each person selected should receive or how their achievement should be recognized. It should be more cost-effective than what was previously suggested. Giving money is not feasible for a city government. Ms. Moore asked the members to recommend something else.

Ms. Moore informed the members that the Youth Award Recognition program has been launched and is located on the YOCO webpage and City Manager's webpage. The members viewed the YOCO webpage on the screen and commented on the contents. Ms. Moore showed them the overview of the program and the nomination form. The deadline to submit the form is March 31st. The members will have April and May to review them and make their recommendations to the Commission in June. The chairperson will present the Youth Council's recommendations to the Commission. They will use a PowerPoint presentation along with a script. After further discussion, Ms. Moore said they should present the recommendations at the first meeting in June (June 3) then the award presentations will be scheduled for the second meeting in June (June 17).

Ms. Moore said that by March the Youth Council members should have a recommendation on what can be presented to the individuals in June, like a plaque, medal, or an engraved portfolio.

Ms. Moore informed the members that they will be taking an updated group photo at the February 15th meeting. She asked the members to wear their YOCO shirts and to bring a brief bio to the meeting to update the YOCO webpage.

There will be a test next month about the City's website. Ms. Moore will have a prize for the member who can answer the most questions.

Motion was made by Vice Chair Tyanna Gore, seconded by Reese Adams to approve the Youth Award Recognition program description and nomination form.

All members were in favor. Motion passed.

b. EMPOWER YOUTH Community Service Event

Chairperson Iyonee Allen said that she had discussed the next community service event with Ms. Moore, and they had come up with an idea called Fish Tank that is similar to Shark Tank except it is for teenagers in our community and their upcoming business. She asked the members for their input on the Fish Tank idea. She reminded the members that the deadline for the youth empowerment is between January and May.

Chairperson Allen explained that first there would be a class on business techniques in the morning then their businesses would be presented to the judges in the afternoon. The members expressed their approval and interest in the Chairperson's idea.

Ms. Moore said that there is a youth entrepreneurship program being offered through the school district that is similar to what is being proposed now. That program provides training sessions for young entrepreneurs in Lincoln Park where they can discuss starting their own businesses with local business owners. Participants also have the opportunity to pitch their ideas to local entrepreneurs or business owners. The winners receive monetary contributions and one-on-one mentoring.

Ms. Moore said that the Chairperson had also discussed with her the possibility of the Youth Council conducting a survey to gather local teens' interest in attending events.

The members discussed the list of activities that the teens could select from on the survey.

Ms. Moore said that they needed to determine when the community services event would be held in order to qualify for the Florida League of Cities community services project. It has to be done by May. The members discussed the date of their community service event. It was decided that it should be scheduled for April 6, on the first Saturday of the month.

The members discussed how to get as many responses as possible to their survey.

Ms. Moore asked for a volunteer to create a graphic that would encourage teens to do the survey and another volunteer to come up with the questions for the survey. The members discussed what questions would be on the survey.

For the new members, Ms. Moore explained that Empower Youth is an annual event hosted by the Youth Council. The topic changes each year, so the current Youth Council is not required to repeat the actions of the previous Youth Council. It is critical to understand that the Empower Youth event requires each member to contribute to its success. To determine the direction for Empower Youth this year, Ms. Moore suggested that the Youth Council poll the youth to see what type of event they would attend. Further discussion focused on topics/ideas for assisting young people their age in the community.

Deonna Davis volunteered to work on the graphic to go on the survey. Vice Chair Tyanna Gore volunteered to work on the questions for the survey. Ms. Moore asked the members to complete their assignments so that the survey could be launched by February 12th.

c. Florida League of Cities 2024 Youth Council Legislative Action Days Program

Ms. Moore asked the members attending the conference to hand in their paperwork. She will send an email with the itinerary to the members who are going to Tallahassee.

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

8. **COMMITTEE AND STAFF COMMENTS**

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Tenelia Garner, seconded by Chairperson Iyonee Allen to adjourn the meeting.

All members were in favor. Motion passed.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 286.26, Florida Statutes, persons with disabilities needing special accommodation to participate in this meeting should contact the City Clerk's Office at (772) 467-3065 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.