

## North Carolina Youth Advisory Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 14, 2020 – 1:00pm  
NC Department of Administration  
116 W. Jones Street, Raleigh, NC  
DOA HR Training Room – 2nd Floor

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**Members Present:** *Veronica Butcher (Chair), Siva Bodavula, John Easterling III, Greg Moore, Beth Brody, Victoria Garrett, Henry Cruz Reyes, Deborah Effen, Amaya Williams, Alexis Diana, Kendall Leigh, Kendyl Brown, Caroline Searcy, Nyanna Sherrod, Carter Lewis*

**Members Absent:** *Rhyan Breen, The Honorable Frederick Davis, Todd Rosendahl,*

**Council for Women & Youth Involvement Staff:** *Candace Dudley, Mary Williams-Stover*

**Other Guest:** *Carmen Myles - Raleigh Youth Council Advisor, Felisa Hunter – Rocky Mount Area Youth Council Advisor, Lindsay Small, Huntersville Youth Council Advisor, Carmen Clemsic, Lake Norman Youth Council Advisor, Caroline Rivera, DOA Secretary's Office*

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**Meeting was called to order by Council Chair Veronica Butcher at 1:10 p.m.**

**Welcome and Call to Order:** Chair Veronica Butcher welcomed everyone, and introductions were given.

Chair read into the minutes the Conflict of Interest. There is no conflict of interest

**Raleigh Youth Council:** Raleigh Youth Council Advisor, Carmen Myles, spoke about the structure of her council. The Raleigh Youth Council is an open invitation council; at any point of the year you can join the council, with the purpose of their council being open to teens who are involved in sports, and other extracurriculars. Their teens have several opportunities to participate in community service projects. Carmen spoke about ways teens are recruited: By word of mouth, the teens in the Raleigh Youth Council spread the word to their friends and encourage their friends to join the council. The Raleigh Youth Council also will talk about the council at schools and specialized recreation dances for teens with special needs. The teens in the Raleigh Youth Council put together the dance and set up the activity. Lastly, they have a website which they utilize to spread the word. Since there are no requirements to be in the council, they have a point system to give rewards to teens who are active and to keep teens active. Toys from Teens: The teens decided to take Santa's Workshop and offer it in another location. Instead of Santa's Workshop, they also offer toys and crafts and they also get to meet Santa as well. The teens in the Raleigh Youth Council have the opportunity to establish their own community service projects. Carmen was asked what is something that the YAC can assist with. Carmen mention that the Raleigh Youth Council isn't informed of the State Youth Council. Suggestion are to create an information sheet on the Youth Advisory Council that breaks down what we do in the Youth Advisory Council that we give to teens at monthly meetings. Know how the Youth Advisory Council could support councils when they host Conferences. Not knowing how much support the State Youth Council will offer when thinking about hosting a conference is discouraging to councils on financial needs bases. The cost for conferences has gone up. The community service project has also gone up. Suggestion that someone with a higher title call hotel in order to receive lower prices.

**Approval of Minutes:** Veronica Butcher asked for discussion, none. Motion made by John Easterling II to approve minutes as written. Seconded by Beth Brody. Unanimous.

### **State Office Update:**

2019 Success! Because of the great things that the Youth Advisory Council ahs done. So many good things have come from each of you....

- The 1-day Service Learning Day continues to grow and more councils are interested in attending. I will have Henry speak about the 1-day Service Learning Day.
- Partnership with Local Government Federal Credit Union. They are looking to partner with local youth councils as well as SYC to expose the youth to financial literacy. They a big sponsor for the Teambuilding/Leadership Conference in a couple of weeks in Winston-Salem and looking to come and present a simulation at the Spring Convention at Lake Norman in April.
- HUGE SHOUT OUT to Rhyan Breen for leading the fundraising working group and for securing sponsorships for the various State Youth Council Conferences. Rhyan has helped to support the Service Learning, Mini-Grant, and Teambuilding Conferences.
- Last year was the initial year of the Lady Cardinal Mentorship Program. We opened the program up to youth within State Youth Councils first. We received mixed reviews due to no housing options. However, we did have 1 student from the Durham Youth Commission participate. She was placed within the Department of Public Safety for the summer. We will encourage youth within Youth Councils to participate during summer 2020.

State Office looking ahead to 2020...

- Continuing to partner with the Human Trafficking program within our agency to assist with opening new chapters in areas of NC. The counties that are of focused are: Bertie, Person, Harnett, Anson/Richmond and Halifax.
- Continue to recruit! There is a big interest from youth groups that may not be affiliated with the local government (non-profits).
- Building relationships with cooperate partners to encourage sponsorships with chapters and conferences.

**Mini-Grant Vote:** Overview of the Mini-Grant Conference was given by SYC Chair Henry Cruz Reyes. Veronica entertains a motion for accepting recommended funding for the mini-grant awards. Motion made by John Easterling II to approve the recommendation for Mini-Grants. The motion was denied, and discussion was had. Discussion surrounded why were some of the grants who did not turn in their complete application given any amount of money. The teens who presented the grants they were provided chose to give partial funding to those grants who did not complete the application. Some of the teens believed that the purpose of the grant outweighed the uncompleted application. Suggestion to inform the councils of the mini-grant process so they were not confused as to what the purpose of the mini-grant selection is would be helpful before they arrive at the conference. The board also suggested making a short information video to help participants of the conference. The state office will also be stricter with the application process, assuring that all grant packets are complete before it going to the conference floor. Thoughts have also surrounded revamping the structure of the conference. After the discussion, a motion made to accept grants as recommended by Beth Brody. Seconded by Greg Moore. Unanimous.

**New Business/Old Business:**

1. The meeting dates for 2020 will be as follows:
  - a. March 19, 2020 – 3:00pm – Virtual Meeting (Approve Awards for Spring Convention)
  - b. May 7, 2020 – 1:00pm – High Point, NC
  - c. August 13, 2020 –1:00pm – Rocky Mount, NC
  - d. December 3, 2020 –1:00pm – Raleigh (Approve Mini-Grants)
2. Suggestions were made to construct a Webinar. This will consist of the YAC giving direct engagement opportunities and examples into the work we are doing in the Youth Advisory Council. Use the webinar to show

what has worked and what hasn't worked in past years. Also ensuring that we are sharing all meeting dates so that advisors can attend and provide InSite. Another suggestion is to increase social media presence of the Youth Advisory Council. Utilizing the Council for Women & Youth Involvements social media.

3. Mary Williams Stover spoke about the upcoming Status of Women Report. She mentioned she is soliciting young ladies to profile. If there are any on the council, please let Candace Dudley know.
4. Social Media Handles for CFWYI:
  - a. Twitter: @CouncilNC
  - b. Instagram: @nccfwyi
  - c. Facebook: facebook.com/cfwyi
5. New Committee was formed, Education Committee. The Chair/Co-Chair is Beth Brody and Greg Moore. Other members of this committee are Nyanna Sherrod, Kendly Brown, Caroline Searcy, and Carter Lewis. This committee will help with educating others about YAC.

**Adjourn:** *Motion to adjourned by Greg Moore. Seconded by Deborah Effen. Unanimous. Meeting Adjourn at 3:01.m.*

Respectfully Submitted: Amaya Williams