



Youth Council Meeting Minutes – March 15, 2022

Item 1 | Call to Order

- Lauren Blois called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Item 2 | Attendance

- Lauren Blois
- Yana Herzog
- Ali Atoui
- Thomas Berinato
- Nick Pilleri
- Nick Walczewski
- Madeline Naper
- Paige Arkinstall
- Bella Schwartzberg
- Marie Estrada

Item 3 | Public Comment

- No members of the public participated in Public Comment.

Item 4 | Approval of Meeting Minutes from March, 1, 2022

- The Meeting Minutes from our last meeting were unfinished, so we will approve the minutes at our next meeting.

Item 5 | Presentation from Mr. Chines

- He explained what the Town Council does in Wakefield as our executive branch:
 - The authority to make appointments, such as Town Administrator
 - Licensing
 - Policy setting (budget proposal)
 - Investigative authority
- Mr. Chines also talked about the election process for Town Council and went into detail about the current focuses.
- Lauren Blois asked about Covid-19 relief and what he's learned in his experiences to help with the Youth Council.
- Madeline Naper asked about how to contact the Town Council about ideas and/or suggestions.

Item 6 | The Wakefield Community Cleanup

- Lauren Blois announced that somebody has pledged to donate all of the funds that we had raised, so we have reached our goal.



- Catherine Dhingra acknowledged all of the plans made to raise money at the Galvin.
- Catherina Dhingra also invited all members of the Youth Council to come to the Dockside on March 29th for the kick-off for the Vietnam Veterans Roll to Washington.

Item 7 | Communications Outreach Subcommittee Update

- Ali Atoui gave updates about the subcommittee:
 - The voter registration initiative is moving forward.
 - The Wakefield Youth Action Team was contacted about promoting Youth Council through “Bathroom Buzz” and “News Flush.”
 - They plan on potentially making a focus group for Galvin students with the Recreation Department and Jim McGrath.
- Catherine Dhingra asked about the next steps for the focus group and taking better care of Galvin fields.
 - Nick Walczewski will set up a meeting with Mr. McGrath.
 - Lauren Blois, Yana Herzog, and Ali Atoui volunteered to facilitate the focus group.

Item 8 | Liaison Updates

- Madeline Naperr brought Karen King from the Friends of the Beebe Library to present.
 - The Friends of the Beebe Library have given more funds to continue with adult programming in addition to covering museum passes.
 - They are looking for volunteers for book drives, creating art flyers and decorating bulletin boards, etc. . .
 - Madeline Naper said she would be interested in decorating the bulletin boards.
- Catherina Dhingra asked if Ms. King posted volunteer opportunities at the high school.

Item 9 | Covid-19 Update

- From the Health Department: Cases have dropped down significantly, so mask mandates in school and public buildings have been eased.
- Catherine Dhingra said that they are trying to bring back more student activities.
- Lauren Blois brought up in-person meetings or hybrid models based on availability and public law.

Item 10 | Elections

- Catherine Dhingra talked to Betsy Sharon (the Town Clerk) who would love to have someone from the Youth Council come and tour to learn more about elections in the Clerk’s office.
- Thomas Berinato said he would be interested.

Item 11 | Adjournment

- Lauren Blois asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.
- Madeline Naper motioned for approval.
- Nick Walczewski seconded the motion.
- The motion was passed by a unanimous roll call vote.