



**Commission on Children and Youth**  
**Meeting Summary-FINAL**  
**June 08, 2022**  
**Meeting held via Microsoft TEAMS**

**Members Present:** Renae McPherson, LaTanya Johnson, Tatiana Marina Lollo, Kirsten Anderson, Chanel Speaks, Jeanett Peralta, Stephanie Clark, Albert D. Reed, James S. Hopkins, Phebe Melaku, Anna Marie Finley

**Members Absent:** Simoni Mishra, Thanh-Thuy “Twee” Nguyen

**Staff Present:** Hannah Shaw (DHHS)

---

**Chair Calls to Order at 6:34 pm**

**Roll Call** (to determine quorum) – quorum established (7 of 13 members present at call to order, 4 additional members joined further into the meeting (during subcommittee breakout))

**Introduction of Guests** – Hannah Shaw (serving in the absence of Pearline Tyson), no other guest present

**Chair’s Opening Remarks**

- It has been a pleasure being your chair, my term as a board member is still active and will remain on CCY through the next commission year after which the role will be passed onto the next MCPS member.
- In a moment will introduce the candidates, then voting will be open and the results will be announced at the end of tonight’s meeting

**Review and Vote on May 12, 2022 meeting minutes** (sent electronically)

- Minutes were adopted with no amendments
  - L. Johnson – motioned to adopt and T. Lollo – seconded the motion

**Commission Business**

- CCY Elections- voting via (anonymous Google form)
  - 2 candidates are on the ballot for the Chair– L. Johnson and T. Lollo. Each candidate spoke based on alpha order of last name.

- 1 candidate on the ballot for the Vice Chair – Twee (candidate did not speak due to not being present at the time)
- The Chair distributed the link to the anonymous voting site via Teams chat and email. Notified team members that they have until 8:20 to vote before the poll will be closed.

**Subcommittee Break Outs** – links for each provided in chat.

**Full Commission Reconvenes/Subcommittee Report Outs** – summary of drafts given, written drafts will be emailed

- Accessible Youth Spaces
  - Have 4 recommendations
    - Increasing access for smaller nonprofits and community organizations that can serve communities with higher poverty rates (such as through subsidizing fees),
    - Finding rec centers to adapt to the change in culture and – virtual reality/tech spaces/interactive Realtime spaces and looking at open spaces that are culturally appropriate (changing a tennis court to pickleball courts – meet youth interests)
    - Prioritizing new spaces that are accessible to neighborhoods (walkable) and without transportation barriers
    - Have a countywide self-audit every 4 years that align with the election cycle
- Youth Employment Opportunities
  - Have 3 recommendations
    - Improve community outreach to youth – consider a central website about programs and market consistently (through IG, Tick Tock, etc.) and consider parents as secondary platform for outreach (through Neighborhood, FB),
    - Working with youth to create a coalition to address issues and engage youth about the issues
    - Create more opportunities – what could lead (recycling programs in high school can lead to waste management)
- Youth Advisory Group – did not meet during breakout session (only 1 member present during the meeting)
- The Chair asks for drafts to be sent out via email for offline editing piece to be completed.

### **Retreat Activities**

- Brainstorming Priorities for Commission Year
- Large Group Discussion

### **Q & A about Proposed Priorities**

- Vote for top two priorities for new commission year –

- 1 – Safety Amongst Youth
- 2 – Equal Education Opportunities

### **Closing and Next Steps**

- Forming subcommittees based on priorities for the fall
  - Safety Amongst Youth – Chanel, Anna Marie, Kirsten, Albert
  - Equal Education Opportunities – Renae, Stephanie, Tatiana, Jeanett
  - Those not on the call will make their selections in the fall
  - Started brainstorming for the fall
- Final elections result (9 votes)
  - Chair – LaTanya Johnson
  - Vice Chair - Twee

Adjournment at 8:33 pm