



HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

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City of Newton Youth Commission November 8, 2023 6:30pm Newton Free Library

Attendance:

Rhiannon Esposito, Shivani Gulati, Spencer Solcoff, Zack Gusenoff, Armine Freeman, Emma Zhang, Grace Cai, Hana Futai, Julia Dun Rappaport, Kenneth Tsay, Matthew Wrigley, Nick Makura, Ryn Leffler, Sarina Chand, Tenley Hanson, Phoebe Anthony, Georgia Finkelstein, Julia Feldman, Gassia Minassian, Chloe Lee, Vikram Scherfke, Aanika Mohta, Eitan Leshem, Chloe Lyons, Pete Olhava, Andrey Sarkanich, Joshua Levitt-Horne, Cindy Qiao, Joya Tendulkar, Ava Qui, Simba Makura, Christian Chau, Evie Shih, Jenna Bancroft, Spencer Friedberg

Meeting called to order at 6:35pm.

View the Presentation Slides [HERE](#).

Event Updates:

- Newton Coalition for Community Wellness Resource Night. View flyer [HERE](#).
- Newton South High School Mental Health Awareness Events. Students interested in helping should sign up to learn more after the meeting. These students will be connected with The Counseling Center staff.
- Spencer Friedberg shared information about the open Teen Center at the West Suburban YMCA.
- Community Event: Diwali, Celebration of Lights. View flyer [HERE](#).

Guest Speakers:

- Sarah Mausner, [Teen Health Comics](#)
 - Presented Teen Health Comics and ways in which other communities have partnered.
- Hattie Kerwin-Derrick, City of Newton Director of Community Engagement & Inclusion, LGBTQ+ Liaison
 - a. Attending members learned about several events through the Mayor's Office that need youth voice and participation.
 - b. View the full presentation [HERE](#).

Subcommittee Group Work: Members worked to identify a goal for each subcommittee.

- Mental Health & Wellness
 - Goal: To increase mental health awareness and access to support for youth and their families.
- Communications
 - Goal: To increase awareness of the Newton Youth Commission and initiatives.
- Community Engagement
 - Goal: To encourage youth in Newton to get involved with the Commission and advance the Commission's initiatives.
- Bike Safety & Access

- Goal: Make biking in Newton safer and more accessible.
- Climate Sustainability
 - Goal: To maintain, protect and advance sustainability in Newton and create accessible opportunities for residents to impact change.

Meeting closed at 8:00pm.

Next meeting: Wednesday, December 13, 6:30pm at Newton Free Library.