



HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Linda Walsh, Commissioner
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City of Newton, Youth Commission March 8, 2023 – 6:30 p.m.

Attendance/Introductions:

Eitan Leshem, Vikram Schefke, Zack Gusenoff, Phoebe Anthony, Priscilla Situ, Rhiannon Esposito, Nick Makura, Matthew Wrigley, Andrew Feinberg, Audrey Wei, Kenneth Tsay, Ryn Leffler, Preethika Vemula, Georgia Finkelstein, Emma Zhang, Chloe Lyons, Julia Dun Rappaport, Grace Cai, Abby Shin, Tenley Hanson, Hana Futai, Pete Olhava, Gassia Minassian, Mia Chu, Spencer Solcoff, Armine Freeman, Meera Parekh, Officer John Panica & Meghan Murtagh.

Meeting called to order at 6:42 p.m.

Meeting Minutes:

- Commissioner R.E motioned to accept the February meeting minutes, seconded by Commissioner S.S. Minutes were unanimously accepted. (4 – 0 – 3 absent)

Youth Commission Updates:

- **Career Pathways Event**
 - Wednesday, March 15, 6:30-8:00 p.m. Newton South High School
 - Event includes 38 vendors from job training programs and employers. The event is not a college fair but includes pathways that do not require a four-year degree.
- **Medical Industry Career Exploration**
 - Thursday, March 23, 6:00-7:00 p.m. Newton Free Library
- **Digital Citizenship Academy with DA Marian Ryan**
 - Wednesday, April 12, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. Youth Commission Meeting
 - Digital literacy workshop, please bring laptops.

Project & Activity:

- Commissioner R.E led attendees through a recap of the February 8 discussion with the City of Newton, Director of Inclusion and Community Engagement, Hattie Kerwin Derrick, about how youth can be more engaged in City events and projects.
 - R.E then engaged attendees through a brainstorming activity, to collect ideas for events/projects to be shared with Mayor's office.

Subcommittee Updates:

- **Community Engagement:**
 - April 23rd: Earth Day Festival at City Hall
 - Promote May bike month events + Bike Newton
 - Supporting #FreshAirFridays
 - Newton Safe Routes to School Handouts
 - [Sharing the Road](#)
 - [Be Safe Be Seen](#)
 - Driver Education Handout
 - Helmet Fitting
 - [Bike Sizing](#)
- **Communications:** February/March newsletter is out. 95 Constant Contacts were sent, 62 people opened the newsletter. The development of the April/May newsletter is underway, with the goal of an April 4 publication date.

- **Mental Health:** The next subcommittee meeting is Tuesday, March 14 at 7:30 p.m. A representative from Samaritans will be joining the meeting to assist with brainstorming and the sharing of information for an upcoming workshop in partnership with YC.

Guest Speaker: Next meeting is Tuesday, March 14 at 6:30 p.m.

Other:

- Next Gen Voices - Creative Minds: Event for Honoring Artists/Students of Color on May 13th
- MENA Day at Newton North

Meeting closed at 7:49 p.m.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, April 12 at 6:30 pm.
Newton Free Library