



Dane County

Minutes - Final Unless Amended by Committee

Youth Commission

Consider:

Who benefits? Who is burdened?

Who does not have a voice at the table?

How can policymakers mitigate unintended consequences?

Wednesday, January 16, 2019

5:45 PM

Goodman Community Center

214 Waubesa St., Madison

Brassworks Building, Triangle Room

Goodman Community Center, 214 Waubesa St., Madison

Brassworks Building, Triangle Room

A. Call To Order

Present 7 - Chair MEGHAN BENSON, FRANCESCA MASCIOPINTO, KELLY DANNER,
ANALIESE EICHER, Chair KHADDY JARJOU, Chair MARCIA MORALES, and
Chair ADAM FEARING

Absent 2 - ARAM DONABEDIAN, and KEMA WILLIAMS

Others present: Megan Dow, Goodman Middle and High School Program Coordinator
Youth participants in GCC programming: Naomi Mimms (9th grade EHS), LaDené Truitt
(7th grade Whitehorse MS), Jayda Blue (7th grade Whitehorse MS) Destiny Travis (7th
grade Sherman MS)

B. Consideration of Minutes

1. [2018](#) 2018_1101 Youth Commission Minutes
[MIN-414](#)

Attachments: [2018_1101 YC Minutes](#)

A motion was made by EICHER, seconded by DANNER, that the Minutes be
approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 7 - BENSON, MASCIOPINTO, DANNER, EICHER, JARJOU, MORALES and FEARING

Absent: 2 - DONABEDIAN and WILLIAMS

C. Action Items

D. Presentations

1. Tour and overview of Goodman Community Center youth programs

Commissioners received a tour of the GCC Brassworks middle and high school youth program and administrative spaces led by the students.

2. Listening session with GCC youth participants

Benson shared an overview of the Youth Commission and the purpose of the listening sessions. Dow and the youth described the middle and high school programming sharing handouts. GCC had received the listening session outline prior to the meeting to allow youth time to prepare their thoughts and answers—which they had done. The session was conversational with Commissioners asking follow-up questions and youth sharing their thoughts and experiences related to GCC, their community and schools. The youth identified many benefits to participating in services at GCC including the opportunity to participate in structured programming, having a safe space to go after school, having a place to make friends, learn social and life skills, and build confidence. They feel supported by the adults at GCC while also being held accountable—which they appreciate. They noted that their relationships and interactions with GCC staff differ from their interactions with teachers and school staff in that GCC staff can take more time to problem solve as needed. They all reported having a “voice” at GCC through Youth Council, when they have a conflict with a peer or staff, and during the planning for the new building. This was identified as a very positive aspect of the program. They feel they have a “voice” at school some of the time, but less so given how school is structured. Concerns related to school and community include large class sizes, teachers not knowing when to call for support (too soon for minor issues and not soon enough when things escalate); they find Code Reds (active shooter drills) to be stressful, and they wish there was more “non-teacher” support people available. They would like job prep courses to be offered in middle school with practical guidance and understanding of cultural differences (e.g. where to get interview clothes and that making eye contact is not always culturally appropriate). They are concerned about their environment—use of plastic and not knowing their neighbors—feeling unsafe at times. They discussed access to bus passes being a positive, but shared that they lose their bus passes if they are no longer eligible for free lunch which makes getting to GCC difficult. They also lose their bus pass in the summer if they are not FRL and in summer school, making daily transport to the GCC very difficult.

The youth participants reported that they enjoyed the opportunity to talk with the Commission and felt it was a good process.

[2018
PRES-095](#)

2019_0116 YC Guidance to Listening Sessions

Attachments: [2019_0116 YC Guidance to Listening Sessions](#)

[2018](#)
[PRES-100](#)

Goodman middle and high school youth program description and schedules

Attachments: [HS LOFT 2018 Q2 Mini Course Description](#)

[HS LOFT 2018 Q2 Schedule](#)

[MS LOFT 2018 Q2 Mini Course Description](#)

[MS LOFT 2018 Q2 Schedule](#)

E. Reports to Committee

1. DCYA Research Summit planning update

Benson reported that two productive planning meetings have been held. The Alliant Energy Center has been reserved and can accommodate a maximum of 312 people. Other venues were either unavailable or too expensive given the committee does not want to charge a registration fee. The Summit will be held on Friday, November 8 due to AEC availability. A general program outline has been proposed and will be vetted as researcher reservations are finalized.

F. Future Meeting Items and Dates

February 20, 2019, 5:45 p.m., Vera Court Neighborhood Center, 614 Vera Court, Madison

G. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

H. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

I. Adjourn

7:00 p.m.

Recorded by Connie Bettin 242-6422 (WI Relay 711)