



# 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?*

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Wednesday, September 18, 2024

5:30 PM

Hybrid meeting: Attend in person  
in Room 354 of the City County  
Building or virtually via Zoom.

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*Interpreters must be requested in advance; please see the bottom of the agenda for more information.*

*Los intérpretes deben solicitarse con anticipación; consulte el final de la agenda para obtener más información.*

*Yuav tsuam tau thov txog cov neeg txhais lus hau ntej; thov saib hauv qab kawg ntawm qhov txheej txheem rau cov ntaub ntawv ntxiv.*

**The Youth Commission meeting on Wednesday, September 18, 2024 will be conducted in hybrid fashion. Members of the public can either attend in person or virtually via Zoom.**

The public can attend in person at in Room 354 of the City County Building.

The public can access the meeting virtually with the Zoom application or by telephone.

To join the meeting in Zoom, click the following link (after you fill out the form, the meeting link and access information will be emailed to you):

[https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_EvX6VVL0SISJTmReXC1d5A](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_EvX6VVL0SISJTmReXC1d5A)

This link will be active until the end of the meeting.

To join the meeting by phone, dial-in using one of the following three toll-free phone numbers:

1-833-548-0276

1-833-548-0282

1-888-788-0099

When prompted, enter the following Webinar ID: 950 0966 7838

**PROCESS TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**IN PERSON:** Any members of the public wishing to register to speak on/support/oppose an agenda item can register in person at the meeting using paper registration forms. **IT IS HIGHLY ENCOURAGED TO REGISTER VIA THE ZOOM LINK ABOVE EVEN IF YOU PLAN ON ATTENDING IN PERSON.**

In person registrations to provide public comment will be accepted throughout the meeting.

**VIRTUAL:** Any members of the public wishing to register to speak on/support/oppose an agenda item **MUST REGISTER USING THE LINK ABOVE** (even if you plan to attend using your phone). Virtual registrations to provide public comment will be accepted until 30 minutes prior to the beginning of the meeting.

In order to testify (provide public comment) virtually, you must be in attendance at the meeting via Zoom or phone, you will then either be unmuted or promoted to a panelist and provided time to speak to the body.

If you want to submit a written comment for this meeting, or send handouts for board members, please send them to: [meinen.megan@danecounty.gov](mailto:meinen.megan@danecounty.gov)

**A. Call To Order**

*Staff present: Megan Meinen*

**Vice Chair Pletzer called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.**

- Present** 6 - Vice Chair ASHLEY PLETZER, CHELSEY TUBBS, EMILY MASCIOPINTO, CHRISTINE BENEDICT, Supervisor KIERSTIN HUELSEMANN, and Supervisor HENRY FRIES
- Absent** 3 - MEGHAN BENSON, REGINA FULLER-WHITE, and Chair PRAGNYA VELLA

**B. Consideration of Minutes**

[2024](#) MINUTES FROM AUGUST 21, 2024  
[MIN-223](#)

**Attachments:** [2024 0821 Youth Commission Minutes](#)

A motion was made by HUELSEMANN, seconded by BENEDICT, that the Minutes be approved. The motion carried by a voice vote (6-0).

**C. Action Items**

*None.*

**Attendance Update**

*Benson and Vella joined the meeting.*

- Present** 8 - MEGHAN BENSON, Vice Chair ASHLEY PLETZER, CHELSEY TUBBS, EMILY MASCIOPINTO, CHRISTINE BENEDICT, Chair PRAGNYA VELLA, Supervisor KIERSTIN HUELSEMANN, and Supervisor HENRY FRIES
- Absent** 1 - REGINA FULLER-WHITE

## D. Discussion Items

### 1. Role of the Youth Commission

*Members discussed what the Youth Commission is allowed to do and confirmed that the body must remain politically neutral. The Commission wants to focus on many things, including middle school-aged youth, public safety outside of schools, how it can support unaccompanied youth and mental health. The body wants to focus on all of Dane County, not just Madison.*

*The Youth Commission can advocate for youth and work with other agencies and funders, especially in making recommendations to them. The Youth Commission wants to try and understand all the different investments Dane County has made in youth programming.*

*Members decided to draft a letter the editor regarding conditions in schools and how cuts in funding would impact youth. The letter not directly mention or advocate for a particular vote on referendums on the November ballot. To understand the issues behind the several school referendums in Dane County this year, members referenced the following document:*

*<https://support.google.com/drive/answer/6283888#gid=1997538076>*

### 2. City of Madison Municipal Funding Referendum (Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway)

*Mayor Rhodes-Conway spoke about the city's budget and referendum on the November ballot. Due to a change in state law Wisconsin municipalities have been unable to raise taxes each year due to cost of living increases, leading to budget deficits. Madison is currently requesting an increase in taxes to cover a six-year period, during which it will lobby to change the regulations at the state level.*

*Budget cuts would most directly impact youth in the areas of affordable housing, libraries, parks, community centers, youth employment/training programs, youth violence prevention, and free bus passes for students.*

*More information can be found at:*

*<https://www.cityofmadison.com/mayor/initiatives/madison-is-seeking-a-funding-referendum>*

### 3. Madison Metropolitan School District Referenda (Superintendent Dr. Joe Gothard)

*Dr. Gothard was not in attendance.*

### 4. Priorities for Current School Year (Time Permitting)

*The Youth Commission would like to invite all municipalities, schools boards and POS agencies that wish to speak to the body to do so.*

**E. Reports to Committee**

*None.*

**F. Future Meeting Items and Dates**

*Next meeting: The body cannot meet on its regularly scheduled day in October due to a religious observance. An alternate date will be sought.*

**G. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda**

*None.*

**H. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law**

*None.*

**I. Adjournment**

**A motion was made by BENEDICT, seconded by BENSON, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by a voice vote (8-0) and the meeting was adjourned at 7:04 p.m.**

*Minutes submitted by Megan Meinen pending Commission approval.*