

YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

(YAC)



Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 30th, 2009

Attendees:

Guests: Ned Rauch-Mannino from the Citizens' Advisory Committee, Brian Anderson from SEPTA Communications Department

SEPTA Liaison: Nilda Rivera-Frazier SEPTA Customer Service & Advocacy

Representatives: Phillip Dawson-Chair, Jamira Burley-Vice Chair, Marcus McKnight-Secretary, Scott Dubin-Technology Chair, Jesse Hunley, Kagiso Reed, Blaise Mannino, Dave Dobkin, Emily Shaeffer, Jacob Nussman, Dustin Krautter, Matt Zaccagni

Elections:

The Youth Advisory Council (YAC) held its first annual officer elections. From the applications submitted for selected the following were chosen. Phillip Dawson YAC Chair, Jamira Burley Vice Chair, Marcus McKnight Secretary, and Scott Dubin Technology Chair

Old Business:

The Youth Advisory Council was instructed at its first meeting to review the current Citizens Advisory Committee's (CAC) By-Laws and to determine which of their rules and regulations applied to them. They were also asked to add in their own ideas in regards to terms of membership and term of service. The YAC was instructed to think about which officer position they wanted to apply for. If they wanted to apply for an officer position, they had to write a letter of interest of why they would be the perfect candidate for the position.

New Business:

The YAC held discussion about the CAC by laws and shared ideas about what they think should and should not apply to them.

The YAC also signed for their "Anywhere" Trailpasses, and were informed from Nilda Rivera-Frazier that in order to continue to receive the passes they will have to attend the plenary meeting each month.

The YAC also were informed that there are three (3) vacancies within the YAC. They were told to talk amongst their inner circle of friends to see who would be interested in joining the YAC. They were also told that an announcement would be posted back on the SEPTA Website. YAC members can encourage people to join, but the final decision will be made by the CAC.

The YAC also discussed and formed three (3) subcommittees. They are:

Service Evaluation Sub-committee:

This subcommittee will help us understand the needs of youth riders and gather the information necessary for the YAC to present SEPTA with feasible, well-supported recommendations for better serving this population. As such, it may not be the most fun-sounding of the subcommittees, but it gets to the heart of the YAC's work. If you're on this

subcommittee, you'll be working on a longer-term project (though one that will be designed to be completed before the summer recess) developing a survey, administering its distribution, analyzing its results, researching how mass transit systems in other cities are serving youth, and distilling all this down into a set of recommendations for SEPTA. You'd be working with the Executive Subcommittee and SEPTA along the way to gain information you'd need about the system and determine practical options for improvements.

Outreach & Events Sub-committee:

This subcommittee will be carrying out the work of planning events and promotions that we undertake during the year. In the short term, that means coordinating YAC presence at fall family weekends at colleges. In the long term, it will probably grow to include outreach to high schools and some institutions outside of Philadelphia. If you're on this subcommittee, you will be coordinating logistics for these events—where we hold them, getting permission, getting freebies/materials/participation from SEPTA, making sure some YAC members can staff the event, etc.

Communications Sub-committee:

This subcommittee will be undertaking all of our publicity, handouts, and invitations. When the Outreach and Events people are planning a YAC promotion at a school, you need to figure out how to get the word out. If the YAC creates an online resource, you'll be working with Scott in Technology to decide what we want to say and post there (and if outside people post things there, like on Facebook, communicating that back to the Council). If we need some new handouts for an event, that will be Communications' job too. And when we do other publicity—getting school papers' attention for our work, reporting on a big achievement—Communications will have a hand in developing that.

The YAC also discussed and determined that the next plenary meeting will be scheduled for Friday, October 23rd, 2009 at 4:15pm.

Submitted By
Marcus A. McKnight

