



Matilde Castiel, MD  
HHS Commissioner

**CITY OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS**  
**Department of Health and Human Services**  
**Division of Youth Opportunities**

Raquel Castro-Corazzini  
Director of Youth Opportunities

**City Manager's Committee on Youth Agenda**

Tuesday, January 16th, 2024 at 3pm

**Zoom link:**

<https://clarku.zoom.us/j/96715184204>

- I. Call meeting to order - Permission to Record! - Present**
  - A. Jennifer Safford-Faquharson, Judi Kirk, Bryant Cortes, Laurie Ross, Virginia Murphy, Raquel Castro-Corazzini, Jeury Abreu, Casey Burns.
- II. December minutes and notes - Motion to approve - Judi Kirk, Seconded by Virginia Murphy.**
- III. Update on previous action items -**
  - A. DYO will schedule a meeting with the CMCOY Chair, City Manager, DYO and law department to go over equity tool use in the charter.
  - B. Youth Council to meet with Annie Arzalozza and Thomas Toney at the end of January to go over their proposal.
- IV. Updates -**
  - A. Equity Tool and charter changes - Meeting with the city manager and law department is scheduled for January 24th.**
  - B. DYO -**
    - 1. Grants -** Shannon Grant has been received and award letters have been sent out. Working on a final budget to send out contracts. SSYI is steady going but DYO is starting to plan contract amendments to make sure money is spent down correctly.
    - 2. Youth Council -** Youth Council starts meeting again on January 22nd.
  - C. Youth Violence Prevention -**
    - 1. CAB -** CAB will be funded through Shannon Grant. Laurie Ross will be working with Frankie Franco who leads the CAB and work on recruitment for the CAB. They will be looking into equity heavily and will look at alternative ways to meet and other components that would help make it

equitable to youth. They will be looking into SMARTT and SSYI as this may provide youth that are part of the demographic that the CAB is targeting.

**2. Governance Council** - Submitted DoN grant that will help different coalitions to work together such as The HUB,

**D. Youth Agenda** - Schedule some time to meet with DPH to align with some of the projects they are working on so they can support this project as well. Based on the data that has been seen so far, we would like to focus the youth agenda to LGBTQ+ youth as they are disproportionately impacted by all aspects of community issues such as mental health and other issues. Raquel Castro-Corazzini is working with Dr. Castiel around how to support this demographic in the youth agenda. DYO is looking for CMCOY to help provide a network of who to speak with on the work that is happening for services for the LGBTQ+ community. Judi Kirk will put Raquel in touch with folx that are managing Safe Homes advisory to help kickstart the conversation. CMCOY votes yes on the Youth Agenda focusing on LGBTQ+ community.

**E. School Updates** - DYO is trying to get a scan of mental health in schools and see what that infrastructure looks like. This will help the Youth Council's request as well as possibly inform the CHIPY and Youth Agenda

**V. Announcement -**

**VI. Action Items -**

A. Jennifer Safford will connect with the schools to make sure CMCOY members are in the distribution list for WPS.

**VII. Adjournment - Motion to adjourn** - Motion by Laurie Ross, Seconded by Judi Kirk.