

Commission on the Status of Children and Youth Meeting Notes

Meeting: Commission on the Status of Children and Youth

Date: August 18th, 2026

Attendees: Crystal Ritter, Callie Rekas, Erin Reynolds, Libby Pennington, Maryjane McNabb, Treyanna Moten, Andi Alvarez

Notes

- **Roll Call**
 - Motion to approve: Maryjane motioned to begin the meeting at 5:34 pm
 - Second: Libby
- **Approval of Agenda and Memoranda/Minutes**
 - N/A, no July minutes
 - Request for additional agenda items: none
 - Motion to approve: MaryJane
 - Second: Libby
- **Reports (if any)**
 - Teen Liaison-Maryjane
 - Crystal read an email from an interested and local high school student about joining and gaining experience with the CSCY. Maryjane will reach out to the interested person to explain that CSCY is looking for a teen liaison to help liaise and help build this opportunity. Crystal recommended creating a formal way to track her interest and that of future liaisons, as well as a spot on the agenda for their reports.
 - Guest Speakers-Leah
 - No updates
 - Community Outreach-Andi
 - Commission approved Andi to lead community outreach efforts with assistance from Treyanna
 - Commissioners discussed what situations qualify for “community outreach”, including
 - Commissioners discussed the opportunity of Commissioners sharing statements regarding current events
 - Andrea will reach out to elementary schools to see if they are accepting community partners to table, and Erin will put out a request for engagement to the commissioners

- Andrea shared that CSCY could table at the Commission on Latinx Affairs; Crystal shared it was September 19th
- Andrea posed finding out if families are impacted by Girls Inc. closing. Commissioners agreed that it would be a good idea to reach out to ask about how the CSCY could help with their transition. Erin, Andrea, and Treyanna will get together to come up with what to reach out to Girls Inc about
- Early childhood education conference at Ivy Tech 10/3, for free. Callie will be hosting a session and invited other commissioners to attend the event or possibly table for CSCY
- Maryjane shared that on Sept. 1st at noon, Pantry 279 is opening their Thanksgiving box request.
- Chairperson's Report-Callie
 - No update
- City Liaison Report-Crystal
 - Crystal posed three new drafts of the CSCY brochure and requested feedback from Commissioners.
 - Crystal shared that there are two applicants for the vacant commissioner seats and gave an overview of the process for how City Council interviews board and commissioner applicants. Crystal requested that any commissioner-recommended applicants be turned in ASAP to be interviewed before the round of interviews closes.
 - Crystal updated that the Facebook page is up and running, and requested that anything to be posted or shared be sent to Crystal, as she is the only approved user.
 - Read for the Record has yet to announce the date or book for 2026. Crystal said that if by the 1st week of September the book is not determined, CSCY can choose the book. Treyanna recommended doing a story time at Morgenstern's. She and Libby offered to help out with organizing, and Treyanna shared that she could reach out to Morgenstern's. Crystal said the Commission can choose a date, and the Commissioners agreed upon the week of November 9th. Commissioners were brainstorming this being a week-long event with the schools. Andrea recommended starting to collect interested volunteers to get readers.
 - The Black Male Youth Summit is happening September 17th and requested commissioners to share it out.
 - Crystal shared that moving forward, emails to the entirety of the commissioners will be sent BCC to avoid the appearance of a formal "meeting".

- Public Comment
 - N/A
- **Old Business**
 - Listening Sessions
 - Andi report
 - Most common kid answers: parks & rec, school, friends, family
 - Most common adult answers: affordable care (unclear on age ranges), more third spaces, family-friendly events, affordable housing
 - We need to learn about the best way to communicate with caregivers/where they get their information
 - Brainstorm ideas: childhood specific resource guide, resource fair, Carnival of Care, February event surrounding summer opportunities and mid-year needs
- **New Business**
 - Dine & Donate
 - Think about restaurants to ask in September
 - Facebook features
 - Reminder for commissioners to submit photos and answers over email to Callie & Crystal
 - Community updates
 - N/A
- **Adjournment**
 - Motion to approve: Libby moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 pm
 - Second: Treyanna

Action Items

- ☐ Plan dine & donate
- ☐ Schedule Read for the Record
- ☐ Plan February event, name TBD