



# MINUTES

MAYOR'S YOUTH ADVISORY  
BOARD  
SEPTEMBER 16, 2021

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## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 5:05pm

## 2. ROLL CALL

### **Members Present:**

Member Cadence Gonzales  
Member Nolan Hall  
Member Jason Bowen  
Member Jose Esquivel  
Member Lilah Chang  
Member Thomas Heikker  
Member Ziara Esquivel

### **Members Excused:**

Member Niveditha Bala  
Member Avi Pope  
Member Valeria Ramirez

### **Others Attending:**

Julie Sanchez, Clerk

## 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**MOTION:** Member Gonzales moved, seconded by Member Esquivel, to approve the as presented.

**VOTE:** The motion was approved on the following Roll Call vote:

**For:** Member Gonzales, Member Hall, Member Esquivel

**Against:** None

**Abstain:** None

## 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES



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- a. Approval of August 19, 2021 Minutes

**MOTION:** Member Gonzales moved, seconded by Member Esquivel, to approve the minutes as presented.

**VOTE:** The motion was approved on the following Roll Call vote:

**For:** Member Gonzales, Member Hall, Member Esquivel

**Against:** None

**Abstain:** None

## 5. OLD BUSINESS

No old business

## 6. NEW BUSINESS

- a. MYAB Subcommittee Breakout Sessions
  - I) Midtown Report Out
  - II) Teen Center Report Out
  - III) Youth Mental Health/Substance Abuse Report Out

Members met in respective subcommittees.

Report out on substance abuse: peer pressure is an issue but there is also another part of the story. Mental health plays a part – learning how to be kind of yourself and how to cope without using drugs. Education plays a role – that includes knowing how these substances are harmful. The narrative on drugs is a response to stress and negative things go on in your life. Life stressors are hard – post pandemic drug use will be on the rise with the lack of education, kids being trapped in abusive households, and drugs may be a viable coping mechanism. Thinking about a group of ambassadors, peer counselors – trained and educating youth for teens to talk to. Group of educated teens going to schools – like the lower grades teaching kids how to be educated about substances and mental health. Member Hall brought



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up a lot of the education on drugs is getting people off drugs rather than prevention of youth taking drugs.

Report out on Midtown: brainstorming on the campus and how it can be turned around similar to the winrock center in ABQ. Having shops, retail, offices, and maybe another teen youth center. Reaching out to the whole school at their schools to survey what students would like to see at Midtown. The group reached out to the DPAC team but haven't heard anything back.

## 7. MATTERS FROM STAFF

### A. Update on Special Projects and Youth and Family Initiatives

The Youth and Family Services Division Director gave an update on activities of the Division.

Councilor Cassutt gave an update on possible future presentations and reminded members to submit their ideas for the 100 things to do list.

## 8. MATTERS FROM THE COMMITTEE

No matters from the board members

## 9. MATTERS FROM THE CHAIR

Chair requests reaching out to their respective subcommittee members.

## 10. NEXT MEETING: No Meeting Scheduled

## 11. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 6:12PM

Liaison

Cadence Gonzales (Oct 24, 2021 14:08 MDT)

Chair