



Wauwatosa, WI

Youth Commission

Meeting Minutes

7725 W. North Avenue
Wauwatosa, WI 53213

Wednesday, January 14, 2026

6:15 PM

Lower Civic Center

Regular Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

Youth Co-Chair Reardon called the meeting to order at 6:19 PM.

ROLL CALL

Present 18 Commissioner, Chair Lance Isaacs
Commissioner - Adult Michelle Fetherston
Commissioner - Adult Linda Groth
Commissioner - Adult Kristin Hagen
Commissioner - Adult Kay Lorenzen
Commissioner - Student Nikolai Buss
Commissioner - Student Charles Gittins
Commissioner - Student Matthew Jaworski
Commissioner - Student Dashiell Johnson
Commissioner - Student Guy Johnson
Commissioner - Student Brendan Reardon
Commissioner - Student Abhiveer Kalirawana
Commissioner - Student Liam Riley
Commissioner - Student Maddie Ullsperger
Commissioner - Student Joshua Wilder
Ex-Officio - Alderperson Andrew Meindl
Ex-Officio - Recreation Dept. Liaison Ted Martin
Ex-Officio - School Board Liaison Amber Tanty

Excused 6 Commissioner - Student Charles Gittins
Commissioner - Student Guy Johnson
Commissioner - Student Maddie Ullsperger
Commissioner - Student Joshua Wilder
Ex-Officio - Alderperson Andrew Meindl
Ex-Officio - School Board Liaison Amber Tanty

Absent 3 Commissioner - Student Zoey Hesprich
Commissioner - Student Benjamin Ruzicka
Commissioner - Student Olivia Wilke

GUEST SPEAKER/DISCUSSION

1. Representative of Waterstone Bank regarding potential partnership opportunities for Career/Life Program

[26-0079](#)

Laura Christenson-Nix, Representative of Waterstone Bank came to speak to us regarding potential

partnership opportunities for Career/Life Program. Laura said Waterstone Bank has many different seminars/classes they present to various groups in the community and to various age groups. They have a variety of financial prep programs geared toward upper high school and college age students including financial literacy, resume writing, interview techniques, opening bank accounts (savings and checking) as well as credit card knowledge and information on Roth IRAs and more. Laura will send Michelle Fetherston a slide presentation she has so Michelle can show it to the subcommittee members and they can decide which topics they want to offer and present their choices with the whole Youth Commission at our next meeting. Laura said they do not charge for giving these presentations.

RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY

CORRESPONDENCE

The Veterans War Memorial Group sent an email to Kay Lorenzen giving an update to the Youth Commission Members, regarding the search for a new location to build the memorial. A couple of years ago, the Youth Commission donated money to purchase a brick for the memorial walkway. After the flooding at Hart Park this past summer, it was determined the War Memorial could not be built there as planned. The search for a new location with a higher elevation is ongoing. The Veterans Memorial Committee will keep us informed of their progress. The Youth Commission was asked to be a part of the dedication ceremony whenever it takes place.

Lance Isaacs reported the Blazer Lacrosse team has openings. If interested or would like more info, contact the Blazer's Director, Laura Temke via the Blazer's website.

This was informational only.

RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY

REPORTS

This was informational only.

1. Treasurer's Report

26-0080

Treasurer's Report

Beginning Balance 1-01-2025.....\$1,000.00

Expenses:

Volunteer Award Ceremony/Reception/Yr. End Recognition.....\$ 282.02 (5 Plaques @ \$40.00 ea and beverages/cake)

Survey Participants Drawing (5 - Gift Cards @ \$20.00 ea.....\$ 100.00

APPSE Donation to Tosa East\$ 100.00

APPSE Donation to Tosa West\$ 100.00

Total Expenses.....\$ 582.02

Remaining Balance - October 8, 2025.....\$ 417.98

Tosa West Playbill Ad.....\$ 150.00

Trunk or Treat Candy/Decorations.....\$ 136.99

Trunk or Treat Additional Candy\$ 119.94

Total Expenses.....\$ 406.93

Remaining Balance - December 10, 2025.....\$ 11.05

NOTE: In addition to our allotted budget of \$1,000.00 for 2025, a portion of the extra remaining funds from the \$10,000.00 budget amount (available to all 4 groups sharing the said fund) were used by the Youth Commission prior to December 31, 2025 to purchase:

Storybook Walk Sign Board Materials.....\$ 350.00

Playbill Ads for the Youth Commission for the 2 shows at Tosa East -2026 ... \$ 300.00

Playbill Ads for the Youth Commission for the 2 shows at Tosa West -2026... \$ 290.00
Swag items for our upcoming Career/Life Preparations classes \$1,302.89
Total Additional Items Purchased \$2,242.89

Treasurer, Kay Lorenzen, reported Zach Kessler MPA, Director of Municipal Services /City of Wauwatosa, confirmed on January 9, 2026, our budget is \$1,000.00 for 2026 (no unspent funds from the previous year will roll over). The Funds of \$10,000.00, shared by the Wauwatosa Youth Commission, the Sustainability Committee, the Equity & Inclusion Commission, and the Commission for Persons with Disabilities has been reduced to \$4,000.00 for 2026, with each group having a \$1,000.00 threshold and no ability to exceed that amount.

Beginning Budget for 2026 - Balance \$1,000.00

RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY

- 2. Common Council [26-0081](#)

No report.

RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY

- 3. Police Department [26-0082](#)

No Report. Kristin Hagen, reported the position remains vacant.

RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY

- 4. Recreation Department [26-0084](#)

Ted Martin, the Director of the Recreation Department, said they creating an Advisory Committee and are looking for 9-12 community members of all ages to join them. It is a two year commitment with six meetings/year. You must apply for one of the open positions. Mr. Martin also noted the Recreation Department's Mission Statement, Vision and Core Values Policies have been updated and handed out copies of them.

New this year: The Recreation Department will help teach skills for career building and employee opportunities to their employees.

RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY

- 5. School Board/District Representative [26-0085](#)

Amber Tanty, Dean of Students at Whitman Middle School, was unable to attend the meeting due to the Open House being held at her school at the same time. She plans to be at our February meeting.

RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1. Awards Committee [26-0087](#)

Lance Isaacs, Committee Chair said the Nomination Applications with a letter of explanations have been submitted to the area schools with students 8th grade and above. Student volunteers to be on the committee to review the applications are: Liam Riley, Dash Johnson, Ben Ruzicka, and Olivia Wilke. As of tonight's, meeting, no nominations had been received. The completed nomination forms are to be submitted to the Youth Commission's email address (tosayouthcommission@gmail.com) which Kristin Hagen, Adult Chair, receives.

RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY

- 2. Birthday Mailings [26-0088](#)

Kay Lorenzen reported the January mailings have been mailed.

RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY

3. Membership Committee

[26-0089](#)

No new members to report.

RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY

4. Publicity

[26-0090](#)

Wauwatosa West High School held a Career/Course Planning Night on Wednesday, January 7th, 2026 at 6:30 PM. The Youth Commission had a table to promote our commission to the attendees. Michelle Fetherston, Kay Lorenzen, and Josh Wilder volunteered to staff our table. We had quite a few take our postcard with the QR code on it to locate us on the City Website and many stopped to inquire about our group.

RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Story Book Walk project with Friends of County Grounds Park

[26-0091](#)

Guy Johnson reported Mrs. Christina Peil sent him a list of books she is considering for the book signboard displays and would like to have our members choose the next 4 or 5 books for next year's storybook walk displays at our January meeting. Just prior to the beginning of our February meeting we will assemble the sign boards. The 4 books chosen, by a show of hands at this meeting are:

Rick, the rock that couldn't Roll by Jay

One Duck Stuck by Phyllis Root

Pete the Cat and his four groovy buttons by Eric Litwin

Knight Owl by Christopher Demis

(Mrs. Piel will be installing the All City Read Book, Salma the Syrian Chef by DannyRamadan at the end of February).

RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY

2. Career Planning Night - Wauwatosa West H.S.

[26-0092](#)

Please see Publicity Report above.

RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY

3. Career/Life Program

[26-0093](#)

- a. Promotional materials ordered
- b. Survey Update
- c. Next Steps

Michelle Fetherston reported she has received 401 survey responses as of tonight's meeting. Based on these results, the classes will be on a week day after school starting about 4:30 pm and will be 1 hour to 1 ½ hours in length per session. Students wish to sign up for one class at a time. The major topics students are looking for are: Financial - such as day to day basics and an overview of the big financial picture. They are looking for a career outline, life logistics and time management, Insurance, and Roth retirement plans and other possibilities.

Mr. Ted Martin said these classes will be offered this coming Fall, 2026. A Facilitator will need to be hired to manage these classes and the cost of this position will be covered by the Recreation Department budget. We will need to have the order of the classes being offered decided upon along with a description of the class by this June in order to make it in the Recreation Department course offering booklet coming

out in late summer.

Michelle noted we need to establish an official name for this Career/Life Planning Program and asked everyone to come up with some suggestions.

Kay Lorenzen reported the promotional/Swag items to be given out to the class participants were ordered prior to December 31st and will arrive in mid to late January, 2026.

RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY

4. Community Events

[26-0094](#)

Kristin Hagen, reported Thea Vorass, Vice President from Tosa Tonight, reached out to Kristin concerning the Youth Commission’s interest in having a community event for High School age youth in Wauwatosa. Lance Isaacs, Community Events Committee Chair, will contact Thea Vorass for details on how we can sponsor one of these events. Ideas are: an outdoor movie, a showing party for a sports game, a host for youth bands at the Rotary Stage. Brendan Reardon and Josh Wilder are the Youth members on this committee.

RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: February 11, 2026

5:00PM - Meeting early to assemble signboards for Storybook Walk.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:41 PM.