



Statesboro Community Youth Network

**SCYN**

STATESBORO COMMUNITY YOUTH NETWORK  
STATESBORO YOUTH COMMISSION  
MONTHLY MEETING

March 20, 2025

6:00 PM

On Zoom

MINUTES

In Attendance: Tina Patterson, Caitlin Brady, LaSara Mitchell, Dan Rea, Lakesha Hill, Katherine Parks, Audrey Jacobs

Guest(s): Minister Taleyia Byrd

- I. Meeting Call to Order
  - a. Tina Patterson called meeting to order at 6:00pm. And quorum was met.
- II. Motion to Approve Agenda
  - a. Caitlin made motion to approve; Katherine seconded.
- III. Reading of the Minutes
  - a. Dan made motion to approve with additions to community conversations regarding youth violence; Katherine second.
- IV. Introduction of guests
  - a. Minister Taleyia Byrd – youth director; very passionate about youth and recently focused on young girls who are being bullied or are bullying
    - i. Girls Like Me; brunch will be first event on May 3<sup>rd</sup> 10am-2pm at 1161 Sarahlyn Lane across from Mill Creek
- V. Updates
  - a. BOE
    - i. School Spotlight = Nevils Elementary; students fell between level 2 and level 3 on GMAS/GA Milestones
    - ii. School Based Health Center = would help reduce early absences, would help students and staff, does not replace school nurses
      1. Benefits (not exhaustive list) = decrease costs, absences for parents that would have to leave work to take youth to medical professionals
      2. Partner is East Georgia Healthcare

3. Presentation is available on Board of Education website
- b. Village Builders
  - i. NYAR Conference will be hosting youth track in 2026, Village Builders and Youth Council were invited
  - ii. April 1<sup>st</sup> – Kristina and LaSara will be giving WTOC interview for Movers and Shakers in the community
  - iii. 2025-2026
    1. May 10<sup>th</sup> = Little Lotts
    2. September 20<sup>th</sup> = Ambassador Event (Goodwill and Freedom Through Recovery)
    3. October 25<sup>th</sup> = Ambassador Event (City of David and Bulloch County Probation and Parole)
    4. November 15<sup>th</sup> = potential location would be Food Bank
    5. February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026
- c. Youth Council
  - i. April 6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> = 26 students going to DC
  - ii. GMA = represented Statesboro well; encouraged to apply for Phase 2 (want to create mural and paint iron artwork)
  - iii. Statesboro PD, Youth Council, and other organizations next event being planned
    1. Luetta Moore Park or maybe Morris Heights = potential spots
  - iv. Placemaking Project is pretty much complete
    1. Ribbon Cutting event is being planned
  - v. Youth Connect applications are open and close Monday
    1. April 22<sup>nd</sup> – April 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm (interviews in-person at BIG building)
    2. May 27<sup>th</sup> from 8-5pm = training day for Youth Connect and Youth Council

## VI. Old Business

- a. Community conversation – re: youth violence
  - i. Check-in with NAACP and Violence Prevention Taskforce
  - ii. Quarterly meeting with youth-serving agencies and other invested organizations/agencies
- b. Planning of Life Skills workshop series/updates
  - i. No attendees for the Apartments 101 event
  - ii. DFACS said stronger attendance/engagement with financial incentives
  - iii. Maybe we plan 6 months in advance to make sure they are aware and let them know of topics

1. If they attend 5 out of 6 or all 6 youth could receive \$100 from Youth Commission
  - iv. School social workers could also be sent event information and maybe the event could get conveyed to parents
  - v. Maybe have a referral based system – if youth refer other youth there could maybe be a financial incentive
  - vi. State Advisory Council meeting – Kristina trying to get on agenda for more information
  - c. TLC discussion/brainstorming
    - i. Georgia Department of Education – annual discipline data required to be submitted from prior school year
      1. Disproportionate action from punishment; disproportionate representation
    - ii. Still waiting to hear about potentially spotlighting TLC
    - iii. Partnering with NAACP Education Committee to see how we can keep conversation open/ongoing about TLC
- VII. Announcements
- a. Community Baby Shower sponsored by Restoring the Breach
    - i. 11am-2pm on April 26<sup>th</sup> in Russell Union Ballroom
    - ii. Open to all new moms who are expecting or have a child 1 years old or younger
  - b. Housing Resource Fair March 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> at Honey Bowen (FEMA, HUD, and other agencies) from 9am-5pm
  - c. The Longest Table (presented by One Boro) on April 5<sup>th</sup> from 4pm-6pm
- VIII. Next steps/ Action Items
- a. Caitlin follow-up with Adam regarding financial incentives
  - b. Kristina will try and get on agenda for State Advisory Council (DFACS)
  - c. Kristina will send out school disciplinary data
  - d. Lakesha will update us if TLC is going to be spotlighted as school at BOE meeting
- IX. Meeting adjourned
- a. Dan motioned to adjourn at 7:21pm; Katherine seconded.

MEETINGS: Currently, Third Thursday of Each Month, 6:00 pm at City Hall, Council Chambers– (Next meeting April 17, 2025)

Zoom link: <https://georgiasouthern.zoom.us/j/87558349043>