

# MAYOR'S YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL BYLAWS

## Article I: Name

Section 1. This group of youth shall be referred to as the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council, herein referred to as "Council".

## Article II: Council Purpose

Section 1. Vision. The Council's vision is to become the voice of the youth of New Orleans directly to the Mayor's office raising issues and concerns and achieving meaningful change important to the well-being of the city's youth and the community at large.

Section 2. Mission. The Council is organized exclusively to advise and propose action items to the Mayor of New Orleans on matters relating to the youth of New Orleans.



Section 3. Specific Purpose. The Council shall work towards the completion of the following objectives:

- (a) The completion of at least one collective impact project
- (b) To identify the concerns and needs of youth, and to advise and make recommendations to members of the Mayor's Office on proposed or pending policy matters related to youth.
- (c) To collect, analyze, and provide information to the Mayor's Office and any other committees, commissions, and task forces on issues related to youth.
- (d) To hold at least one public hearing each year for the purpose of receiving youth comments on issues of importance to youth and such other meetings at the call of the council.

## Article III: Membership

Section 1. The Council will consist of twenty-five members appointed by the Mayor's Office of Youth and Families as follows:

- (a) At least two members shall be appointed from each city council district and the remaining shall be appointed from the city in a manner that reflects the diversity of the city to the greatest extent possible.
- (b) Members shall be selected on the basis of an application.
- (c) Qualifications of members. Each member of the council shall:



- (i) Reside in the city limits of New Orleans
- (ii) Be enrolled and attending a Louisiana school in the eighth, ninth, tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade; participating in a home study program approved by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education; or participating in a general education development skills program as defined by policy adopted by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.
- (iii) Terms of office. Members shall serve a term of one year and may be reappointed for a subsequent term, provided that they are eligible at the time of reappointment. However, no member of the council shall serve more than two consecutive terms.

## Article IV: Officers

Section 1. Officers. The Council members shall nominate and elect a Chairperson, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Communications Officer. Other positions may be appointed at the Chairperson's pleasure. Candidates for such positions shall be nominated and elected by The Council.

Section 2. Chairperson. The duties of the Chairperson shall include, but are not limited to, planning and coordinating, facilitating discussions, appointing special committee chairs, serving as official spokesperson, and coordinating activities of the Council in collaboration with MYAC staff.



Section 3. Vice-Chair. The duties of the secondary chairperson shall include but are not limited to assisting the president as requested and serving as President in the absence of the President.

Section 5. Secretary. The duties of the Secretary shall include but are not limited to preparing accurate meeting summaries of all The Council meetings.

Section 6. Communications Officer. The duties of the Communications Officer shall include, but are not limited to preparing the annual report, updating social media, and communicating necessary information to The Council members.

Section 7. Terms of Officers. All Officers shall serve a term of one year with no officer serving more than two terms in an office.

Section 8. Vacancy. If a confirmed vacancy of an officer position occurs, then The Council shall elect a new officer who will remain in that position for the remainder of the term.

## Article V. Committees

Section 1. Special Committees. Special committees may be formed at the pleasure of the chairperson and exist as deemed necessary by the Chairperson. Chairs and members of these committees may be appointed by the chairperson.



Section 2. Executive Committee. The four Officers serve as the members of the Executive Committee.

Article VI. Meetings

Section 1. Regular Meetings. The Council shall hold meetings at the call of MYAC staff with the advice of the officers.

Section 2. Annual Meeting. The Council shall hold an annual meeting in the month of July at the call of the MYAC Staff where the council shall conduct a seminar to swear in, orient new members, elect officers, and where no more than 3 past MYAC members shall make a report of the activities of the council from last year.

Section 3. Quorum. A quorum is a simple majority of members in good standing and a quorum must be present to start a meeting or at any time a vote is taken, other than a motion to adjourn.

Section 4. Attendance. MYAC members are required to attend all meetings unless excused by MYAC staff. It is the responsibility of each Council member to notify MYAC staff whenever the member is unable to attend a meeting of Council.

Section 5. Respect. Council members shall show respect at all times for any person speaking at a public hearing and for one another.



Section 6. Parliamentary Procedure. Any question concerning parliamentary procedure at meetings shall be determined by the presiding officer by reference to Robert's Rules of Order.

Section 7. Questions of Order. The presiding chair shall decide all questions of order, subject to appeal to Council. The chair's ruling stands unless overruled by the majority of Council membership.

Section 8. Notice of Meetings. A notice of each meeting shall be given to each member, not less than one week prior to the meeting.

Article VII. Miscellaneous Provisions.

Section 1. Removal. Only the MYAC Staff have the power to remove a Council member.

Section 2. Failure to Attend. Failure to attend any regular Council meeting without approval may be considered cause for removal of a Council member. Subject to the discretion of MYAC staff.

Section 3. Required Vote. Each member present at a meeting of the Council shall be entitled to one vote. Every act or decision done or made by a majority of the members present at a meeting duly held at which a quorum is present is the act of the Council. A meeting at which a quorum is initially present may continue to transact



business notwithstanding the withdrawal of members, if any action taken is approved by at least a majority of the required quorum for such a meeting.

Section 4. Resignation. Any member may resign at any time from the Council upon written notice to the MYAC Staff. The resignation shall be effective regardless of whether it is accepted by the committee.

## Article VIII. Amendments.

Section 1. The Council may amend these Bylaws by majority vote at any regular or special meeting. Written notice setting forth the proposed amendment or summary of the changes to be effected thereby shall be given to each member five days in advance to such a meeting.

## Article IX. Adoption of the Bylaws

We, the undersigned, are all of the initial Officers of this Council, and we consent to, and hereby do, adopt the foregoing Bylaws, consisting of the 5 preceding pages, as the Bylaws of this Council.



ADOPTED AND APPROVED by this the first Mayor's Youth Advisory Council on this 2nd day of May,2020.

Kaleb Nelson Yazmeen Allen Quinn McKay Chandler Gaudin Taylor M Pittman Tamaya McMillan Navis Sumayah Allen Amari Shepherd Zander Dunbar Kamryn-Irie Thomas Kandace Thomas

Madison Vidal Perryion Landry Malcolm Ferrouillet Jacob Keelen Kairie Simone MaGee Ethan Wachtel Kayla Andrus Aaron Smith Madysin Mondy Andrew Gary Tryisten Washington