

These minutes are approved by the Youth Link Board.

**CITY OF BELLEVUE
YOUTH LINK BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

February 9, 2022
6:00-8:00 p.m.

via Zoom

BOARDMEMBERS PRESENT: Co-Chair Natalie Sarabosing; Boardmembers Sarah Desai, Rachel Doyle, Neo Hou, Mukthi Kahn, Richard Li, Irfan Madhani, Rosy Mendoza, Priyanka Mukhara, Melisa Shafiee, Mia Trenbeath, Candace Warner

BOARDMEMBERS ABSENT: Co-Chair Devika Vyas¹, Boardmembers Lauren Lambert, Manish Nadendla

COUNCILMEMBER PRESENT: Councilmember Jeremy Barksdale

STAFF/OTHERS PRESENT: Patrick Alina, Sara Boyle, Justin Chan, Toni Esparza, Angela Phan, Sima Sarrafan, Isabella Wang

MINUTES TAKER: Michelle Cash

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Sarabosing at 6:09 p.m. A quorum was present. A Land Acknowledgement was read by Co-Chair Sarabosing, as well as the Zoom meeting guidelines.

Timekeeper: Sarah Desai

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by Boardmember Mukhara and second by Boardmember Shafiee to approve the meeting agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously (12-0).

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Boardmember Desai and second by Boardmember Mukhara to approve the January 12, 2022 meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously (12-0).

An Icebreaker Activity was conducted.

¹¹ Excused absence.

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

5. REPORTS:

A. Council Liaison Update

Mr. Alina explained that Council Liaison appointments are made every two years. Councilmember Lee has been reassigned. Therefore, Councilmember Jeremy Barksdale is the new Council Liaison. Boardmembers welcomed Councilmember Barksdale.

B. BSD Liaison Welcome

Boardmembers welcomed Bellevue School District Board President Sima Sarrafan as the newly appointed liaison to the Youth Link Board. Ms. Sarrafan provided an update about recent school board activities.

C. Bellevue Youth Council & Staff Report

Mr. Alina provided an update about recent Youth Council activities. In addition, he invited Boardmembers to join Gumbo Night on February 23, 2022.

D. Eastside Pathways Update

No report.

6. STUDY SESSION ITEMS:

A. COB Diversity Advantage Program

Justin Chan and Sara Boyle provided an overview of the Diversity Advantage Program. Mr. Chan and Ms. Boyle offered their support to Youth Link and responded to various questions from Boardmembers.

Over the past several decades, Bellevue has grown from a quiet suburban bedroom community into a dynamic, international and multicultural city. The City Council's vision statement begins, "Bellevue welcomes the world. Our diversity is our strength."

With the adoption of Bellevue's Diversity Advantage Plan in 2014, the work of making this vision a reality has informed and fueled new citywide efforts to grow as a culturally competent organization and to broaden resident engagement. To accomplish this, Bellevue adopted a distinctive approach by forming a Diversity Advantage Team (including community

engagement, organizational development and ADA/504/Title VI) to serve as drivers and catalysts for organizational and community change.

Mr. Chan and Ms. Boyle said that Bellevue's diversity work is rooted in the principles of equity, access, inclusion, opportunity and cultural competence. These principles inform efforts underway to improve city policies, staffing and hiring, training, communications, services and outreach. For the community, this work is also improving our human services, public safety, education, economic development, and civic engagement.

B. Youth Volunteering App

Anika Krishnan, Overlake School, discussed the Youth Volunteering App (Treefish). Treefish is a social application built by volunteers. Users can share their volunteer experience, discover opportunities from friends and community members, and connect with friends in helping the community. She also responded to various questions from Boardmembers. Overall, Boardmembers thought that the App is a great asset to the youth community.

C. Human Services Commission Youth Meeting

Human Services staff have invited a panel of Bellevue youth to share their observations on the human services issues most impacting their peers and community. This panel will help influence funding decisions on behalf of the Human Services Commission.

7. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS:

A. Youth Link Board 2021-20223 Needs Assessment & Work Plan

Boardmembers discussed the Youth Link Board 2021-20223 Needs Assessment & Work Plan. Items discussed included the following:

- Youth Transitions
- In/Out School Support
- Tree Model

Boardmembers will continue their work on the Work Plan.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.