

**FARGO YOUTH INITIATIVE**  
**Sunday, December 21, 2025 | 1:00 PM**  
**4809 S University Drive, Fargo, ND 58102**  
**AGENDA**

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Approve Agenda & Minutes.....Action Item
3. Discussion on Governance Model
4. Adjourn



People with disabilities who plan to attend the meeting and need special accommodations should contact the Planning Office at 701.241.1474. Please contact us at least 48 hours before the meeting to give our staff adequate time to make arrangements.

## **FARGO YOUTH INITIATIVE MINUTES**

### **Regular Meeting:**

**Sunday, June 1, 2025**

A Meeting of the Fargo Youth Initiative Members of the City of Fargo, North Dakota, was held in Atomic Coffee, 222 Broadway N #100, at 1:00 p.m., Sunday, June 1, 2025.

The Fargo Youth Initiative Members present or absent were as follows:

Present\*: Ashley Hsu, Ava Bach, Drew Burris, Erica Johnson, Harper Reiniger, Isabella Meyer, Justin Jiang, Kaj Naujokas, Lucy Paul, Minou Babingui Setiya Hamidi

Absent: Aiden Rosten, Abigail Hamilton, Kallie Anderson, Koral Siegal, Lillian Dybing, Rose Ali, Reanna Quiah, McKenzie Olson, Steph Kramer

*\*Due to lack of quorum for an official meeting, the meeting commenced with informal presentation and discussion.*

#### **Item 1. Welcome and Introductions**

Chair Meyer welcomed Members to the meeting and introductions were made.

#### **Item 2. Approve Agenda & Minutes**

This item was tabled due to lack of quorum at the time of the agenda item.

#### **Item 3. School Engagement**

No updates were heard.

#### **Item 4. Youth Public Health**

Chair Meyer shared an update that she and fellow Members who volunteered for the youth substance abuse prevention campaign are awaiting further coordination from Fargo Cass Public Health.

#### **Item 5. Youth Homelessness**

Representatives of the North Dakota Youth Action Board, Axel Beckett and Shawnel Willer, joined virtually to share about the North Dakota Youth Action Board and opportunities for further engagement.

#### **Item 6. Ground Mural Project Collaboration**

Artist and Folkways representative Lesleyanne Buegel joined virtually to share about an upcoming ground mural project located downtown and invited members to volunteer. Members asked questions about the project as well as how to pursue their own ideas for local murals.

#### **Item 7. North Dakota Legislative Session**

Chair Meyer shared that the North Dakota Legislative Session is officially concluded. She also shared that she has some upcoming advocacy opportunities in Washington, D.C. and invited Members to share their ideas with her.

**Item 8. Volunteering Discussion**

Chair Meyer suggested using the ground mural project as a volunteering opportunity.

**Item 9. Liaison and Staff Reports**

Assistant Planner Catlyn Christie shared on behalf of the City that they are undergoing the 2026 budget process and in tandem reviewing the governance structures and support in place for some citizen advisory boards, including Fargo Youth Initiative.

In response, Chair Meyer shared feedback that she values the access to connections with city officials that has been afforded by Fargo Youth Initiative and its Impact Fargo event, on a variety of topics that are of importance to youth such as the phone bill ban, sustainability, and public health. Member Hamidi shared feedback that Impact Fargo was what led her to apply to Fargo Youth Initiative and that she values the new perspectives and connections and opportunities for impact that it brought. She added that monthly meetings are valuable for her since youth make up a large part of the population and an opportunity for their feedback is important. Chair Meyer added that there is value in introducing the youth to how government works, which is important to making more informed decisions and fostering civic engagement.

Member Hamidi shared as liaison to the Sustainability and Resiliency Committee that she will attend meetings as she is able and share some ideas including for a sustainability mural.

Assistant Planner Catlyn Christie shared an update on behalf of the Planning Department that there are several upcoming LDC Workshops in June.

Assistant Planner Catlyn Christie shared an update on behalf of the Parks District that they have an interactive engagement site for their Park System Master Plan at [Connect.FargoParks.com](https://connect.fargoparks.com).

**Item 10. Announcements**

Chair Meyer shared the dates of upcoming City Commission meetings.

**Item 11. Adjourn**

The time of adjournment was 2:30 p.m.

## **FARGO YOUTH INITIATIVE MINUTES**

### **Regular Meeting:**

**Sunday, September 7, 2025**

A Meeting of the Fargo Youth Initiative Members of the City of Fargo, North Dakota, was held in Atomic Coffee, 222 Broadway N #100, at 1:00 p.m., Sunday, September 7, 2025.

The Fargo Youth Initiative Members present or absent were as follows:

Present: Aiden Rosten, Ashley Hsu, Ava Bach, Drew Burris, Harper Reiniger, Isabella Meyer, Justin Jiang, Kaj Naujokas, Lucy Paul, Minou Babingui, Setiya Hamidi

Absent: Abigail Hamilton, Erica Johnson, Koral Siegal, Lillian Dybing, Rose Ali, Reanna Quiah

### **Item 1. Welcome and Introductions**

Chair Meyer welcomed Members to the meeting and introductions were made.

### **Item 2. Approve Agenda & Minutes**

Member Babingui moved the Order of the Agenda and the minutes of the March 2, April 6, May 1, and June 1, 2025 Fargo Youth Initiative meetings be approved. Second by Member Bach. Members present voted aye and the motion was declared carried.

### **Item 3. School Engagement**

Fargo School Board Liaison Kristin Nelson shared about efforts to enhance student engagement and prioritize learners, and she noted that the Superintendent's student cabinet is anticipated to start soon. She facilitated conversation with members about which topics are most important to them, which included sustainability and recycling; student engagement and well-being; mental health support; college preparation; attendance policies; backpack policies; and school safety.

### **Item 4. Youth Public Health**

Chair Meyer shared an update that the youth substance abuse prevention campaign with Fargo Cass Public Health has been canceled. She anticipates updates at the next meeting from Community Health Educator Abby Lange at the October meeting.

### **Item 5. Youth Homelessness**

No updates were heard for this item.

### **Item 6. Liaison and Staff Reports**

Member Hamidi shared as liaison to the Sustainability and Resiliency Committee that the committee is dissolving at the end of the year. At the September meeting, she will be presenting on a recycling project she is working on at Davies.

Assistant Planner Catlyn Christie shared an update on behalf of the Planning Department that there is an LDC Code Connect event in September for Members interested in urban planning. She also shared that the ground mural project presented at the last meeting is now complete.

**Item 7. Discussion on Governance & Operations**

Assistant Planner Catlyn Christie shared an overview of the background and status of the citizen advisory boards and commissions under review at the City. She noted that more information will be forthcoming about next steps.

**Item 8. Adjourn**

The time of adjournment was 2:15 p.m.

## **FARGO YOUTH INITIATIVE MINUTES**

### **Regular Meeting:**

**Sunday, October 5, 2025**

A Meeting of the Fargo Youth Initiative Members of the City of Fargo, North Dakota, was held in Atomic Coffee, 222 Broadway N #100, at 1:00 p.m., Sunday, October 5, 2025.

The Fargo Youth Initiative Members present or absent were as follows:

Present: Aiden Rosten, Ashley Hsu, Isabella Meyer, Lillian Dybing, Lucy Paul, Reanna Quiah Setiya Hamidi

Absent: Abigail Hamilton, Ava Bach, Drew Burris, Erica Johnson, Harper Reiniger, Justin Jiang, Kaj Naujokas, Koral Siegal, Minou Babingui, Rose Ali

*\*Due to lack of quorum for an official meeting, the meeting commenced with informal presentation and discussion.*

### **Item 1. Welcome and Introductions**

Chair Meyer welcomed Members to the meeting and introductions were made.

### **Item 2. Approve Agenda & Minutes**

This item was tabled due to lack of quorum.

### **Item 3. Youth Public Health**

No updates were heard for this item.

### **Item 4. Youth Homelessness**

Chandler Esslinger, Executive Director of the FM Coalition to End Homelessness, shared information about local efforts to end homelessness.

### **Item 5. Liaison and Staff Reports**

Member Hamidi, Liaison to the Sustainability and Resiliency Committee, shared updates regarding Fargo Public Schools sustainability initiatives and her recycling project at Davies High School.

City Commission Liaison Denise Kolpack shared updates regarding the recent passage of the City budget.

### **Item 6. Discussion on Youth Engagement & Governance Models**

Discussion was held with Fargo Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Cory Steiner and School Board Liaison Kristen Nelson regarding school engagement with students.

### **Item 7. Adjourn**

The time of adjournment was 2:36 p.m.

## **FARGO YOUTH INITIATIVE MINUTES**

### **Regular Meeting:**

**Sunday, December 7, 2025**

A Meeting of the Fargo Youth Initiative Members of the City of Fargo, North Dakota, was held in Atomic Coffee, 222 Broadway N #100, at 1:00 p.m., Sunday, December 7, 2025.

The Fargo Youth Initiative Members present or absent were as follows:

Present: Aiden Rosten, Isabella Meyer, Lucy Paul, Minou Babingui, Setiya Hamidi

Absent: Abigail Hamilton, Ashley Hsu, Ava Bach, Drew Burris, Erica Johnson, Harper Reiniger, Justin Jiang, Kaj Naujokas, Koral Siegal, Lillian Dybing, Reanna Quiah, Rose Ali

*\*Due to lack of quorum for an official meeting, the meeting commenced with informal presentation and discussion.*

### **Item 1. Welcome and Introductions**

Chair Meyer welcomed Members to the meeting and introductions were made.

### **Item 2. Approve Agenda & Minutes**

This item was tabled due to lack of quorum.

### **Item 3. Youth Public Health**

Assistant Planner Catlyn Christie shared updates on behalf of Fargo Cass Public Health Community Health Educator Abby Lange, who expressed gratitude for all the collaboration with Members and invited Members to reach out to her if they are interested in working on policy development related to tobacco/nicotine products that are being marketed toward youth. She also shared that she is in the early stages of facilitating more peer to peer interactions between high schoolers and middle schoolers regarding mental health and substance use.

### **Item 4. Youth Homelessness**

Commissioner Kolpack shared that focus is currently on fundraising to move the Downtown Engagement Center to its new location. Ms. Christie noted that the City recently reopened its winter warming center. Robin Nelson, CEO of Boys & Girls Club of the Red River Valley, offered to connect students with efforts at Frasure and Youthworks.

### **Item 5. Liaison and Staff Reports**

Member Hamidi, Liaison to the Sustainability and Resiliency Committee, shared updates regarding the dissolution of the Sustainability and Resiliency Committee at year-end. Cass County Administrator Robert Wilson shared background on the County's Cass County Youth Commission that no longer is in operation.

**Item 6. Discussion on Governance Model**

Discussion was held regarding the transition of Fargo Youth Initiative to a proposed model in collaboration with Fargo Public Schools and other government entities.

**Item 7. Adjourn**

The time of adjournment was 2:28 p.m.

DRAFT