

FARGO YOUTH INITIATIVE
Sunday, May 4, 2025 | 1:00 PM
Atomic Coffee | 222 Broadway N #100, Fargo, ND 58102
AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Approve Agenda & Minutes.....Action Item
3. School Engagement
4. Youth Public Health
5. Youth Homelessness
6. North Dakota Legislative Session
7. Volunteering Discussion
8. Liaison & Staff Reports
9. Announcements
10. Adjourn – Next meeting June 1, 2025



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, April 6, 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, April 6, 2025.

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

Present*: Aiden Rosten, Ashley Hsu, Isabella Meyer, Harper Reiniger, Justin Jiang, Kaj Naujokas, Lucy Paul, Minou Babingui, Reanna Quiah, Setiya Hamidi

Absent: Abigail Hamilton, Ava Bach, Drew Burris, Kallie Anderson, Erica Johnson, Koral Siegal, Lillian Dybing, McKenzie Olson, Rose Ali, 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

Vice Chair Babingui moved the Order of Agenda and the minutes of the March 2, 2025 Fargo Youth Initiative meetings be unofficially approved. Second by Member Hamidi. Members present voted aye and the motion was declared carried unofficially.

Item 3. School Engagement

No updates were heard for this item.

Item 4. Youth Public Health

Fargo Cass Public Health Public Information Officer Holly Scott and Fargo Chief Communications Officer Gregg Schildberger shared about a potential youth substance abuse prevention campaign. Members asked questions and gave feedback on outreach and messaging strategies. Those interested in serving on a smaller focus group are encouraged to email Holly at HScott@FargoND.gov.

Assistant Planner Catlyn Christie shared updates on behalf of Fargo Cass Public Health Community Health Educator Abby Lange, including thanks to FYI members for supporting the Anti-Tobacco Youth Action Summit on March 4 and serving on the youth panel of the Cass Clay Suicide Prevention Coalition's summit on April 8.

Item 5. Youth Homelessness

Commissioner Kolpack provided updates on the City's efforts to address homelessness, including advocacy at the legislative session for funding and continuing to lean on nonprofit partners in the "United to End Homelessness" program. She encouraged

Members to stay engaged, make public comments at City Commission meetings, and share their perspectives as youth.

Item 6. Fargo Transit Discussion

Assistant Planner Catlyn Christie shared information on behalf of Transit Planner Luke Grittner regarding MATBUS usage and responses to questions Members had submitted. Members expressed interest in learning more about how situations are monitored on the bus and what interventions are possible to ensure youth rider safety and comfort.

Commissioner Kolpack invited members to attend MATBUS Coordination Committee meetings which are technical but always open to public input. She also described funding issues the transit system currently faces.

Item 7. North Dakota Legislative Session

Commissioner Kolpack shared an overview of key legislative activity of impact the City including property tax reform, approval voting revocation, and funding for the Red River water supply. Further discussion was held regarding other bills such as cell phone bans, housing funding, book bans, and library and museum funding.

Item 8. Volunteering Discussion

Chair Meyer said she is working to set up a group volunteering effort for something related to homelessness, to align with the board's focus areas this year.

Item 9. Liaison and Staff Reports

Commissioner Kolpack shared a report on City Commission items including the budget cycle and the upcoming mayoral and City Commission race, including consideration for adding two more seats to the City Commission.

Member Hamidi shared a report on the Sustainability and Resiliency Committee.

Assistant Planner Christie shared a report on behalf of Librarian Anna Lynch that she is tabling at the high schools in response to Members' input last meeting. Christie also shared that she submitted their feedback for the City's Land Diagnostic Code re-write and there is interest in further collaboration in June. Meanwhile, Members can visit FargoLDC.org/Project-Documents and watch "Code Connect" session recordings for updates.

Item 10. Announcements

Vice Chair Babingui shared an invitation to attend an Umoja event on April 18 at 5:30pm at the Arbors for students to review and present solutions on improving their communities.

Item 11. Adjourn – Next meeting May 4, 2025

The time of adjournment was 2:57 p.m.

FARGO YOUTH INITIATIVE MINUTES

Regular Meeting:

Sunday, March 2, 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, March 2, 2025.

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

Present: Ashley Hsu, Ava Bach, Drew Burris, Isabella Meyer, Justin Jiang, Kaj Naujokas, Kallie Anderson, Lucy Paul, Minou Babingui, Setiya Hamidi, Steph Kramer

Absent: Abigail Hamilton, Aiden Rosten, Erica Johnson, Harper Reiniger, Koral Siegal, Lillian Dybing, McKenzie Olson, 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 Kramer moved the Order of Agenda and the minutes of the January 5, 2025 and February 2, 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

No updates were heard for this item.

Item 4. Youth Public Health

Fargo Cass Public Health Community Health Educator Abbey Lang shared updates on the Youth Action Summit on March 4, 2025 by Tobacco Free North Dakota. She also shared information on the upcoming Suicide Prevent Summit on April 8, 2025 at the Fargodome, including an opportunity for Members to speak on the youth panel.

Assistant Planner Catlyn Christie shared updates on behalf of Fargo Cass Public Health Nurse Madison Verghis, including an upcoming meeting with Fargo health teachers and meetings with school nurses about increased collaboration on reproductive health education.

Item 5. Youth Homelessness

Assistant Planner Catlyn Christie shared updates on current homelessness efforts, including an upcoming recommendation to City Commission to extend the resolution allowing for camping to April 30 as the "United to End Homelessness" program launches. Discussion was also held regarding a state legislative funding bill under

consideration that includes homelessness and affordable housing funding. Members agreed that they want to urge support for this funding to the maximum extent feasible.

Item 6. Fargo Land Development Code Discussion

Assistant Planner Catlyn Christie provided an overview of what the City's Land Development Code does and the current process underway to update it. Members watched a video on designing cities with a sense of place. Members shared feedback on what they would like to see more or less of in Fargo in the future, such as more third spaces for kids; more transit options; more greenery; and more unique architecture.

Item 7. North Dakota Legislative Session

Chair Meyer shared about the status of the North Dakota Legislative Session and encouraged Members to keep informed on bills that may be pertinent to youth.

Item 8. Volunteering Discussion

Chair Meyer said she is aiming to set up a group volunteering effort for something related to homelessness, to align with the board's focus areas this year.

Item 9. Liaison and Staff Reports

Assistant Planner Christie shared a report on behalf of Commission Kolpack to pay attention to the annual budgeting process this year as well as a new community engagement tool soon to be launched.

Member Hamidi shared an update as FYI liaison to the Sustainability and Resiliency Committee as to their most recent areas of focus.

Assistant Planner Christie reminded members to complete the survey regarding teen programming at the Fargo Public Library.

Item 10. Announcements

Vice Chair Babingui shared about an Umoja event on April 18 for students to review and present solutions on improving their communities.

Item 11. Adjourn – Next meeting April 6, 2025

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