

**VILLAGE OF WESLEY CHAPEL YOUTH COUNCIL**

**COMMITTEE CHARTER**

**Approved April 17, 2012, Rev. April 13, 2015, Rev. Oct. 12, 2017**

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**INTRODUCTION**

The Village of Wesley Chapel has experienced significant growth over the last decade. In particular, the Village has experienced growth in families resulting in an increase in the number of young people residing in the Village.

The following provided the basis of the reasoning for a resolution to form the Youth Council Committee: lack of knowledge among local youth regarding the roles of government, especially in contrast to the role of free enterprise; more involvement of youth in civic activities; and improve the identity of youth relative to the Village of Wesley Chapel. 2011.08.16 Council Meeting Minutes, p. 237, book 14. Village Council eventually approved Resolution 2011-07 forming the Youth Council Committee. 2011.10.10 Council Meeting Minutes, pp. 266-67, book 14. In particular, Council granted the Youth Council Committee the power that upon a request of a majority of Youth Council Committee members to address the Village Council at a regularly scheduled Village Council meeting, such request shall be granted and the Youth Council Committee will be placed on the Council agenda no later than the second regularly scheduled Village Council meeting from such a request. Such a power reinforces the importance of the Youth Council Committee’s advisory role to Village Council and other committees of the Village.

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

The Village of Wesley Chapel's Youth Council Committee acts as a resource to the Village Council and advises them regarding the concerns of the youth. More importantly, the Youth Council Committee engages youth in the Wesley Chapel community and instills leadership among them.

## **CRITICAL SUCCESS MEASURES**

- Identify issues pertaining to youth, communicate the concerns of youth, and suggest possible actions to be taken to the Village Council.
- Facilitate an interest in and solicit feedback from other youth concerning issues involving the Village of Wesley Chapel.
- Members will strive to educate themselves in issues being considered or issues that need to be considered by Village Council.
- Achieve a consensus among the Youth Council Committee members concerning recommendations to be provided to the Village Council.
- Actively participate in and contribute to Village activities to demonstrate the importance and impact that youth participation may have in the Village of Wesley Chapel.
- Become the leadership among youth in community service projects undertaken by the Village as a whole or the Youth Council Committee.
- Decisions provided by the Youth Council Committee are respected and form an integral part of decisions made by the Village Council.
- Improve community relations by ensuring the voice of our young residents are heard and considered in decisions made on behalf of the Village.
- Engage in public service of the highest order to instill within each member the leadership qualities that are important in local governance.

## **COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

- Local high school students or home schooled youth that are freshmen or older residing in the Village of Wesley Chapel shall serve on the Youth Council Committee until graduation or removal for cause.
- Complete the Village of Wesley Chapel application to join a committee/board.
- Appointment by the Mayor of Wesley Chapel.
- The limit of members that may join the Youth Council Committee at one time is 9 with 7 regular members and 2 alternates.

## **OFFICERS**

The Youth Council Committee shall select a chairperson, vice chair, and a secretary to record meeting minutes. These positions shall be agreed upon by the majority of Youth Council members, and may also be replaced upon agreement by majority of the Youth Council Committee members. The main purpose of the Chair is to organize and run the meetings, the main purpose of the vice chair is to assist the chairperson and learn from the current chairperson in order to become the chair.

## **COUNCIL LIAISON**

A Council member will be selected each year as the liaison to the Youth Council Committee by the Village Council to assist in guiding the Youth Council Committee.

## **MEETINGS**

Planned meetings will be scheduled on an annual basis according to Youth Council availability. Other meetings as needed may be arranged by the Youth Council. The scheduled meeting date may be changed with notice in accordance with proper Village procedures.

The Youth Council Committee Chair or Vice Chair shall attend Village Council meetings and address the Mayor and Village Council to give their monthly report.

## **GENERAL AGENDA ITEMS**

Call to Order and Roll Call  
Approval of Agenda  
Approval of Minutes  
Public Comments  
Discussion of Current Issues of Interest to Youth  
Review of Projects  
Comments from Council Liaison  
Discussion of Items for Next Meeting's Agenda  
Adjourn

## **GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES**

- Service projects and/or youth events in the Wesley Chapel/Weddington/Union County region.
- Youth Council/Youth Advisory Board Conferences.
- Attendance of regularly scheduled and other arranged Youth Council Meetings.
- Other activities as agreed to by the Youth Council Committee.
- Provide a Monthly report to the Village Council at their regularly scheduled meeting.

## **PARTICULAR AREAS OF YOUTH COUNCIL COMMITTEE CONTRIBUTION**

- Contribute ideas for the use of Dogwood Park for Youth Activities.
- Provide opportunities for youth in the community by planning, implementing and executing events.
- Identify and help establish priority for items related to youth that should be considered by Village Council.
- Propose annually a budget to the Village for Youth-related activities.
- Represent the Village of Wesley Chapel at local, state, and national conferences/functions as funds allow.