



City of Salisbury  
**YOUTH DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
January 15, 2019

Committee Members Present

Suzannah Cain, Acting Chair (not yet appointed)  
Mike Dunn  
Amber Green

Committee Members Absent

Bishop Jesse Abbott  
Gaylena Bivens  
Joann Blackmon  
Tom Brown  
Mandel Copeland  
Alexis Dashield  
Zach Davis  
Aaron Dela  
Debbie Donaway  
Harlan Eagle  
Tom Evans  
Kim Gillis  
Terry Greenwood  
Donna Hanlin  
Dr. Ray Hoy  
Michele Hughes  
Josh James  
Erica Joseph  
Matt Maciarelo  
Jermichael Mitchell  
Kathleen Momme  
Walt Moore  
Bryan Murfee  
Pamela Patey  
Jennifer Shahan  
Erin Sheehan  
Lisa Simone  
Jessica Sims  
Jim Thomas  
Mark Thompson  
Major Vic Tidman  
Ed Urban  
Robert Williams

In Attendance

Laura Baasland, City of Salisbury Mayor's Office Administrative Associate  
Kevin Lindsay, City of Salisbury Neighborhood Relations Manager  
Kate Bleile, Junior Achievement of the Eastern Shore Operations Manager  
Teresa Thaxton

### In Attendance (continued)

Ivonne Lomax  
Habacuc Petion  
Whitney Burton  
Nicole Acle

**The Youth Development Advisory Committee (YDAC) met at 5:15p.m. in the Greater Salisbury Building**

### **Call to Order**

The YDAC meeting was called to order at 5:19pm by Mrs. Cain.

### **Updates and Introductions**

Mrs. Cain promptly turned the meeting over to Mr. Lindsay for an update on the City of Salisbury's new full-time position for Youth Development Specialist. The City has been interviewing for the position and hopes to have it filled soon. The Youth Development Specialist will serve as the City Staff Liaison on the YDAC. Mrs. Cain then introduced herself to the Committee and provided a brief background of herself. Mr. Dunn then offered praise for Mrs. Cain and thanked her for stepping up to run the YDAC.

### **Membership**

Mrs. Baasland produced copies of the YDAC roster and questioned what appointed members are still active, and what regular YDAC attendees are interested in applying for appointment. Brief discussion ensued but was tabled to be brought up later in the meeting, after the Resource Fair had been discussed.

### **Junior Achievement's Inspire Fair and YDAC's Resource Fair**

Ms. Bleile, the Operations Manager for Junior Achievement (JA) of the Eastern Shore, discussed the JA Inspire Fair and reviewed the event's schedule. The JA Inspire Fair will take place at the Wicomico County Youth and Civic Center (WCYCC) on March 12, 2019 and will offer classes for the participating high school students such as "Get Hired" (a class that focuses on collaboration, creativity, critical thinking, conflict management, soft skills, interviews, etc.), "Work Priorities" (a class that explores what the students are looking for in a job/career), "Know Who Is Hiring" (a class that details the fields that are growing and in high demand), "Personal Brand" (a class that examines how the students present themselves, the importance of a firm handshake and a proper email address, and the impact of social media), and of course the Resource Fair. Students will be given a guidebook with lessons to be taught by volunteers. Materials for all activities are provided to the students and volunteers. Each student will be given a lanyard that has their name, school, group, and schedule. Having explained the basics of the event, Ms. Bleile said that the YDAC needs to focus on the Resource Fair aspect of the Inspire Fair.

Ms. Green mentioned the Power 101.7 lunches put on by the local radio station and suggested that perhaps the station could provide a DJ to play at the Inspire Fair's lunch. Ms. Bleile explained that the arena of the WCYCC is being used for the Resource Fair, so there is not a lot of space for a power lunch, but pondered that perhaps another room of the WCYCC could be used. Ms. Bleile stated that the biggest way the YDAC can help with the Resource Fair is by volunteering and asking businesses for prize donations. The students will be given a "passport" to be signed off on at each table they visit at the Resource Fair, and students who fill their entire "passport" will be given prizes, such as teen memberships to the local YMCA, and gift certificates from Uptown Cheapskate. Ms. Bleile asked the YDAC if anyone has any other ideas for prizes and how to obtain them—this is something the members of the YDAC will be working on.

Mrs. Cain confirmed the vendors for the Resource Fair. Mrs. Cain spoke with Courtney Hastings of Wicomico County Libraries, which has a resource center. Mrs. Cain had a meeting with them on Friday, January 11, 2019 to find out what the library will be able to provide for the Resource Fair and verified that they will have a table at the event. Mrs. Cain also spoke with a manager at T-Mobile to find out what they may be able to provide for the event, such as programs that secure cell phones for students and pre-paid programs for minors. Mrs. Cain identified transportation as a significant barrier for teens who want to work and researched Shore Transit as a potential resource for students. Mrs. Cain suggested that perhaps YDAC could secure a representative from Shore Transit to have a table at the Resource Fair and she is waiting on a call back from Brad Bellacicco of Shore Transit. Additionally, Mrs. Cain working with Salisbury office of the Maryland Motor Vehicle Association (MVA) to determine what transportation resources they may be able to provide students with.

Ms. Green mentioned that the MVA is working with the local nonprofit organization HALO Ministries to help individuals get their identification cards and/or driver's licenses. According to Ms. Green, Missy Joy of HALO is the individual working with the MVA. Ms. Green suggested that perhaps the YDAC could find out the schedule for these partnership pop-up events and at least filter students there who need help getting an ID or license. Ms. Burton asked if the YDAC could arrange for the MVA to set up a pop-up at the Resource Fair.

Mrs. Cain discussed the gap in mental health resources, and asked the Committee how this issue should be addressed and included at the Resource Fair. Mrs. Cain suggested the Committee ask Chesapeake Health to participate, and Ms. Green suggested the Wicomico County Health Department as they offer adult and youth mental health training. Ms. Burton explained a possible resource she is aware of that assists young people with healthy life conditions. Ms. Burton suggested that the parallel between a young person being diagnosed with a chronic condition and learning how to cope with it and advocate for one's self are skills that apply directly to job hunting and interviewing. Ms. Acle suggested the Governor's Office of Children's Mental Health Campaign as a potential resource.

Further, Mrs. Cain brought up the possible need for a childcare resource for teen parents or pregnant teens and asked the Committee if Social Services would be appropriate for this. Ms. Green reiterated that there is certainly a need for childcare in our area, and mentioned a coalition called Providers United, a grassroots group of daycare providers with a combined 22 years of experience between them. This coalition has been operating for approximately one and a half years and offers the least expensive childcare locally. Ms. Green suggested that Providers United could assist students with finding childcare.

Ms. Lomax clarified that the event being discussed, the JA Inspire Fair, is an event to help teach life skills and provide resources for students. The Resource Fair is a component of the Inspire Fair that is designed to assist students with barriers they face in securing employment. Ms. Lomax suggested that perhaps the Lower Shore Workforce Alliance could partner with JA on this event, and Ms. Bleile explained that she wants to be strategic about resources at this event since the Resource Fair is limited to only forty minutes. Ms. Bleile made known that every student that attends the Resource Fair will leave with a backpack that is filled with supplies, including a flash drive with a resume template and other documents that JA or the YDAC wishes to provide. Ms. Burton articulated that part of teaching these students navigation skills is leaving it up to them to determine where they need to be and manage their own time.

Mrs. Cain discussed the partnership between Pohanka Automotive and WorWic Community College. WorWic has scholarships for driver's education, and Pohanka has a teen car-buying program. Pohanka and WorWic will have a table at the Resource Fair to provide miscellaneous brochures and educational materials about their programs.

Ms. Green identified that there is a need for a resource to funnel kids into programs to keep them out of trouble, such as after school programs and activities. She expressed that it would be beneficial to students to be connected to youth programs in our area and suggested that the YDAC find a resource to set up a table at the Resource Fair. Ms. Green suggested possible nonprofit partners for the table, including: Fenix Youth Project, Horizons, and Agave Empowerment. Upon further discussion, the Committee determined that the YDAC is the most appropriate resource for such a table, and therefore YDAC will have a table of its own at the Resource Fair.

Mrs. Cain reviewed the eight resources that the YDAC has thus far identified for the event: Star Track, Wicomico County Public Library, Shore Transit and the MVA, T-Mobile, WorWic and Pohanka, mental health, Wicomico County Board of Education, and the YDAC. The Committee determined that this would be plenty of resources and perhaps students should be only be required to visit four of the eight tables to be eligible to earn a prize.

### **Committee Business**

Once details for the Resource Fair were finalized, Committee membership was revised. It was discussed that only two of only thirty-five appointed YDAC members were present, and that without a quorum, the Committee was unable to vote on anything. The group discussed how to address the large roster and the absent members and decided that membership needed to be reevaluated and voting members should be restricted to only those who are willing and able to make the commitment to attend regular meetings, and that all other interested persons would be welcome to serve the YDAC in an unofficial capacity by attending meetings at-will and contributing their own ideas and resources. Maryland Open Meetings Act (MOMA) legislation and certification was discussed, and it was clarified that a MOMA certified person, Mrs. Baasland, was present and that a MOMA certified individual needed to be in attendance at every YDAC meeting. Mrs. Cain, the Acting Chair, will work to become appointed to the YDAC, and she and Mrs. Baasland will work together to clean up the committee's membership.

### **Next Meeting**

The YDAC's next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 12, 2019 at 5:15pm in the Greater Salisbury Building.

The YDAC meeting was adjourned at 6:39pm.

Minutes Recorded By:

  
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Laura Baasland, Mayor's Office Administrative Associate

  
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Date Approved