

Just Older Youth, Inc. Board of Directors Meeting

Plantation Key Community Center

June 12, 2025

- A. **Call to Order** at 5:30 pm. Present: John Cooper, Eva Merkel (via Zoom), Averil Kimble (via Zoom), Sammy Bleser, Terry Willner-Tainow (arrived at 6 pm via Zoom). Advisory Members: Denise Downing. Program Director Maria Uribe was also present.
- B. April 10, 2025 **Minutes Approved**; motion by Merkel, seconded Kimble, C/U.
- C. **Program Director report** was accepted; Maria noted a celebration is planned for a long-time member on her 100th birthday.
- D. **Committee Reports**: Averil noted that the Board Handbook should be ready for approval at the Board's July meeting.
- E. **Executive Board Actions** Announced:
 - 1. Board Name tags will continue to be provided to board members, as well as a polo shirt should they desire one. A policy was also written to thank outgoing board members for their service. Membership in the Islamorada Chamber of Commerce was approved. Potential to join Key Largo Chamber in future.
 - 2. Membership in the Islamorada Chamber of Commerce was approved.

F. Unfinished Business

- 1. Tracking volunteer hours: Averil agreed to take this task on until another volunteer is found.
- 2. Committee status was reviewed; Sammy noted her personal commitments do not allow her much free time to participate. It was noted that Dennis Caltagirone will be present for board work after July 1st.
- 3. JOY Survey - discussion postponed to July meeting.

G. New Business

- 1. A grant will be submitted by Eva "Arts Builds Community" which would provide \$5,000 to pay for a short-term teacher and supplies. Motion to approve submission: Kimble, Seconded Bleser. C/U.
- 2. Nadine Thompson has submitted her resignation and was thanked for her work as a member of the Advisory Board.

3. Annual Donations by Board Members: It was noted that this policy is included in the Board Bylaws and John offered to check in with board members who may have not donated.
4. Eva presented at a recent Rotary Club, distributed info, and was encouraged to apply for an Upper Keys Rotary grant - if we somehow include high school students (i.e. possibly as interns at JOY) it would be seriously considered.
5. Training for Directors - the Bylaws provide for it, and it will vary from year to year as board members change.
6. An AI instructor has volunteered to teach/present at JOY in the Fall; John is in contact with her.
7. Dawn will be preparing a year end tax report; there have been no financial reports for May or June due to illness.
8. John presented a Certificate of Achievement to Denise Downing on behalf of the Board and noted her many years of service from JOY's first inception as a founder, board member and volunteer extraordinaire. He noted he will be mailing certificates to other members who have left (Jessica Soto, Sarah Marter, Jill Zima Borski, and Cary Reyes).
9. At the recommendation of the Board, minutes of Board meetings will be posted on our website.
10. Storage Items are stored at two locations. Terry and John will start an inventory of all items to determine their value. Maria suggested possibly sharing of a storage place her son uses for his nonprofit.
11. Maria asked for approval to change an instructor's status from unpaid to paid. Board noted this wasn't necessary and Maria is authorized make such decisions and let the board know.
12. Volunteer Recruitment and organization challenges was discussed including: a need for clearer structure and specific roles; matching volunteers' skills to actual needs; connecting potential volunteers directly to the Volunteer Committee chair; utilizing JOY days for Board members to engage with participants; and the specific need to have a functioning Volunteer Committee to address these issues.

The next meeting is July 10th; John declared the meeting to be adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Averil Kimble, Secretary

Note: These minutes are considered a draft until approved by the Board at the next meeting.