

## **JUST OLDER YOUTH, INC. Board of Directors Meeting Minutes November 17, 2025**

- A. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by President John Cooper. Present: Sammy Bleser, Dawn Cale, Averil Kimble (via Zoom), Eva Merkel, Terry Willner Tainow, Carol Rose. Absent: Denny Caltagirone Advisory Board: Delly Alexander, Denise Downing, Jerry O'Cathey, Sara Reizen (via Zoom).
- B. Guests: Carol introduced Lisa Siegel, who is interested in JOY and volunteering. John also introduced Jerry O'Cathey, a previous Advisory Board member, and welcomed him as a returning member.
- C. Minutes from the October meeting were approved: **Motion**: Terry/Dawn, Carried unanimously.
- D. Program Report: Maria reminded everyone of the upcoming JOY Showcase which will be held December 3rd at 6 p.m at the Murray Government Center in Key Largo.
- E. Treasurer's Report: Carol and Dawn reviewed the report sent out, noting we are down \$9,000 from last month; we have \$53,000 in the bank; and monthly expenses to operate JOY run around \$6,500. It was requested again to develop a one-page summary comparing current, previous and year-over-year financial data in order for board members to easily see and interpret our financial status.
- F. Committee Reports: John announced Averil will be the new Chair of the Membership/Volunteers Committee; members are Terry, Sammy and Delly.
- G. Executive Board Actions 1.  
John announced the Executive Board approved reconfiguring committee designations, with only the Finance, Membership/Volunteer, and Outreach remaining as active regularly meeting groups. Others will become active as needed.
2. Maria announced a member poll has resulted in JOY closures over the holidays of Thanksgiving and Christmas/New Year (11/24-26 and 12/24-25, 12/31-1-26.)
3. Eva announced the submission of a grant application to Ocean Reef Foundation in the amount of \$55,000 for a third day.
- H. Unfinished Business
1. Tee-Shirt fundraiser. Maria stated as soon as the QR code can be ready, the fundraiser can start.
2. Averil reported she has received all the info to include on our website as to why board members decided to volunteer at JOY and request each member to provide a head-shot photo to include.

3. No discussion on Five Year Goal Statement. Further input has been received and will be discussed by the Executive Board.

I. New Business (note Items 1 and 2 were already discussed earlier in meeting)

3. Fundraising: Carol reviewed the report sent to the board by Denny. There was much discussion and recommendations given which will be reviewed by the Committee: Giving Tuesday, Amazon Smile, Donor Recognition Board, Intergenerational program event, fee based model for classes, seniors "summer camp," and adding lower donation tiers to Business Sponsors.

4. John reported the meeting with John Allen resulted in forming good will and a feeling of cooperation. Mr. Allen is supportive of JOY (such as providing help with fees and supplies), yet there are many budgetary restraints for the County.

5. John recommended updating the signatories on the bank account by adding Eva Merkel (current Vice President) removing Dawn Cale (no longer Treasurer) and adding Carol Rose (new Treasurer). **ACTION:** Moved by Willer Tainow, seconded by Bleser to change the bank account signatories by: Adding Eva Merkel (VP) and Carol Rose (Treasurer) and to delete Dawn Cale. Motion carried.

6. John stated that only he and Averil have been submitting their volunteer hours. Averil will send out a simple form board members may use to track their hours. John noted oftentimes grant applications request this information.

7. John said Naomi Pagidas has found a furniture piece for JOY document storage and Maria stated she has already managing the process of storing documents.

8. Board Meeting Dates: After discussion the Board elected to change the meeting day/time: **ACTION:** Moved by Kimble, seconded by Merkel, to change the meeting days to second Tuesdays and the time to 4-5:30 pm, beginning January 2025. Motion carried.

9. Trademarking/Copywriting for JOY to protect our identity. Eva will look further into costs.

(note Items 10, 11, and 12 were discussed earlier in the meeting)

13. Partner with Girl Scouts. Sammy suggested we put a table near the Girls Scouts when they are at Publix to advertise JOY offerings.

J. Next meeting: Thursday, December 11, 2025 at 5:30 pm.

/egm for /ajk