

JUST OLDER YOUTH, INC. Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes February 17, 2026

- A. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by President John Cooper. Present: Sammy Bleser, Dennis Catalgiron, Averil Kimble (via Zoom), Gail McManus, Eva Merkel, Carol Rose. Absent: Terry Willner Tainow, Dawn Cale. Advisory Board: Denise Downing, Sara Riezen (Zoom). Guest: Deb Mealus.
- B. **Guests**: Deb Mealus was introduced, and Carol said she hopes Deb will join the Board.
- C. **Minutes** from the January meeting were approved: **Motion**: Gail/Sammy. C/U.
- D. **Program Report**: Alternative sites are needed for when JOY site cannot be used this coming year. Decisions need to be made by May 1st. Maria will look into KL Civic Club, Murray Nelson Govt Ctr, Founders Park, local libraries.
- E. **Treasurer's Report**: Eva distributed a summary, noting: \$6,605 was received in donations and expenses were \$5,584. Jan. 2025 income was higher at \$73, 712.
- F. **Committee Reports**:
Outreach Committee (see written report provided).
Fundraising Committee: (see info under New Business)
- G. **Executive Board Actions**
A contract (attached to these official minutes) has been signed with Ilene Perez to provide bookkeeping services for JOY; \$250 was also approved as payment for work done prior to contract signing.
- H. **Unfinished Business**
1. Tee-shirt order for fundraising should go forward this month.
 2. Info and photos of Board members will be finalized after the March election.
 3. Only 4 Board members have submitted their volunteer hours to the Secretary.
- I. **New Business**
1. Fundraisers: Denise reminded us that JOY will receive \$6 on every Italian dinner ticket sold this month. Carol and Denny reported Elks Dinner/Murder Mystery tickets are selling well. Discussion arose throughout the meeting relative to charging for classes, including a "hybrid" model. A review of donations in class jars showed only a average of \$6 being donated per class over the past 6 weeks. John requested the

Fundraising committee present their recommendations on charging for classes to the Board at a future meeting.

2. Nominating Committee. Averil said she is waiting to hear from two former Board members who may be interested. Denny announced that, although he was planning to leave the Board (due to his wife's health issues), he will stay for as long as possible as it has been gratifying at the meeting to see the energy and cohesiveness evident in tonight's discussions.

John announced he has sold his home in the Keys and will be moving to Coral Gables in the near future, but hopes to be able to continue on the Board, if possible.

3. Business Sponsorship Program. Eva announced a new level has been added to the program to allow for more entry-level participants. The new policy will be distributed to add to Board Handbooks.
4. Program Coordinator's Compensation. Eva recommended changing the hourly rate to a monthly one at \$3,500 per month, effective February 1, 2026. **ACTION:** Moved by Denny, seconded by Sammy to approve. Carried unanimously.
5. Committee Membership. John requested that any Board member not currently serving on a committee chose where they would like to serve and let him know.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 17, 2026 from 4-5:30 p.m. Note: This is the Board's annual organizational meeting wherein elections will take place.

K. **Adjournment** at 5:30 p.m.

Averil Kimble, Board Secretary

John Cooper, Board President