

JUST OLDER YOUTH, INC. Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes January 13, 2025

- A. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by President John Cooper. Present: Sammy Bleser, Averil Kimble (via Zoom @ 4:15), Eva Merkel, Terry Willner Tainow, Carol Rose. Absent: Denny Caltagirone, Dawn Cale. Advisory Board: Denise Downing. Guest: Gail Kennedy McManus.
- B. Guests: John introduced Monroe County representatives: John Allen, Director of Parks and Beaches; Cathy Crane, Director of Social Services; Jenna Tuttle, Asst. Director of Social Services; and Naomi Padigas, Community Services Specialist. There followed a 45-minute discussion by all regarding ways (e.g. facilities usage) JOY and the County can work together to mutually support each other relative to serving the 'mature majority' in Monroe County.
- C. Minutes from the December meeting were approved: **Motion**: Terry/Carol, Carried unanimously.
- D. Program Report: Maria noted the high attendance in classes currently; the t-shirt order was held up again due to paperwork; noted that there will be days the County needs the building and we may have to either move or cancel classes (e.g. elections).
- E. Treasurer's Report: Eva distributed a sample of the format she will be using to present monthly reports to the Board. She noted the total of donations from the public for 2024 was approximately \$43,000; in 2025 its was approximately \$47,000. She noted grant funding (recent \$5,500 grant), which show improvements in the financial situation. Carol said she will be meeting with Elizabeth Brown from Community Foundation of the Florida Keys to discuss further funding opportunities.
- F. Committee Reports: Fundraising: Carol discussed plans for the proposed Murder Mystery Dinner. She reviewed potential costs and possible revenue. Dates are Feb. 21 and Feb 29 at the Elks Club in Tavernier. Additional information relative to ticket sales, etc was discussed. As there was not definitive cost information available at this time, John asked the information be provided to the full Board and a vote requesting approval as soon as possible.
Denise noted that the Fundraising Committee and Board agreed to take part in the Italian Dinner fundraiser at the Civic Club on February 22, 2026. For every \$12 sold, JOY would get \$6
Outreach Committee (see written report provided).
- G. Executive Board Actions
1. John announced that the Program Coordinator and Assistant were both presented with end of year bonuses.

2. The Executive Board appointed Eva Merkel to be Treasurer, while still serving as Vice President at a meeting on 12/16. Bylaws reflecting this change in policy were voted on via email by all Board members, effective 12/16/2025.

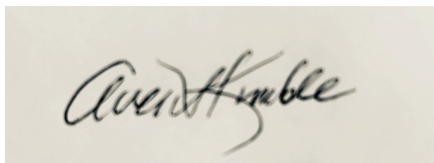
H. Unfinished Business

1. Status of transition of Treasurer's functions. Eva said she has met with Dawn Cale and received all the documents needed to serve in the position, and has also met with a new bookkeeper.
2. Art Program Status. Eva announced the program is off to a good start with 41 signups for all 4 classes as of today.
3. Tee shirt proposal (Maria provided this information during her report at Item D.)
4. Status of Director's Biographies. Averil said all have been received, however only 3 photos have been sent to her. Once all are received, it will be added to our webpage.
5. Volunteer Hours. Only 3 board members have sent their hours to Averil.

I. New Business

1. John recommended Gail Kennedy McManus be elected as a Board Member, effective immediately. **Action:** Moved by Eva, seconded by Terry to elect Gail Kennedy McManus to the Board, effective immediately. Motion carried unanimously. Gail was warmly welcomed to the Board.
 2. Carol Rose has volunteered to serve as Committee Chair for the Nominating Committee. Elections will be held in March.
- J John announced that the current day of the month for meetings does not work for one of our members. Discussion resulted in the decision to stay with a 4-5:30 time slot, and John will send out a survey to receive input as to a day of the month that will work with everyone's schedule.

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Averil Kimble". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured background.

Averil Kimble, Board Secretary

John Cooper, Board President