

Approved at the 4/21/2026 YBCC meeting

**DUTCHESS COUNTY YOUTH BOARD AND COORDINATING COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes –March 17, 2026**

Present: Amy Smith, Doni Valitutto, Jaime Hyla, Doreen Clifford, Karmen Smallwood, Katie Cariello, Monica Baker
Karen Lynch, Barrington Atkins, Lew Darrow, Amy Ghattas, Olivia Clark, Juliana Corbett, Brianna Thatcher, Amanda McGann-Watson, Jennifer Radicone

Agenda Item	Discussion
Approval of Minutes for January 2026	A motion was made to approve the January 20, 2026, YBCC minutes. Vote taken; Jaime Hyla made a motion to approve; Doni Valitutto seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.
Guest Speaker	Jill Gomez gave a presentation and overview of Poughkeepsie Children’s Cabinet and what they provide for the City of Poughkeepsie.
Youth Program’s Analyst Report	The youth programs analyst provided a report on the NYS OCFS Grant Funding workshops that were held last week. The workshops were held on March 10 th and 12 th at the Dutchess County Emergency Response Center. At the workshops a detailed overview of the grant application process was discussed. There were roughly 50 in attendance between both days. The NYS OCFS Youth Program Grant Funding application is now open in the Dutchess County portal until April 2 nd at 1pm. During this report, it was mentioned that the proposals committee is looking for additional members. A brief overview of the role of a proposals committee member was shared.
Governor’s Youth Council Update	The YBCC chair provided an update from our Governor’s Youth Council Dutchess County representative: The topic of the focus this year is the importance of civic literacy education in schools. The main proposal is that bill S6763 proposed by NY State Senator Robert Jackson be revisited and strengthened. They presented their peer review on January 29 th and did a virtual focus on February 11 th . A date for their regional presentation has not been announced but once it is available it will be shared with the board.
Board Work/Recruitment	The board participated in small group discussions this month. The focus of their discussion was working on recruitment and spreading the word about the YBCC-what it is the YBCC does, and what the YBCC would like to do.
	Motion to adjourn meeting at 6:10pm was made by Olivia Clark; seconded by Karen Lynch.

Submitted by Juliana Corbett, Program Assistant