

# DuPage Township Youth Committee Meeting Minutes

241 Canterbury Lane, Bolingbrook

February 23, 2026

5:30 PM

I. Call to Order by Chair 5: 30 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance: lead by guest Iyende Lenior-Wright

III. Roll Call for Quorum: Member Bunch, Tucker, Odum, Lawrence; Supervisor Marschke present, Liaison Ransom 5:44 p.m.; Member Strong- absent.

IV. Approval of Agenda; Grace/Ryan

V. Approval of Minutes: Grace/Demetrius

a. January 27, 2026

VI. Public Comments **\*\* Sign in, please**

Invitation to speak on any issue on the agenda or anything regarding the Youth Committee. **\*\*** (Limited to one, 3-minute comment per person). None

VII. Old Business

- a. Ryan: Connecting Youth and Seniors. Two possible programs, Foster Grandparents Program through Catholic Charities and Conversations to Remember.
  - 1. Tracy will connect with Levy Center about possible collaboration.
  - 2. Ryan will take deeper dive into programs
  - 3. Tracy presenting to senior committee, Senior Club, Liaison Jackson

VIII. New Business

a. Welcoming Deneen Wright to the youth committee: official swearing in on Wednesday during Feb. 25 budget workshop; chose a 4-term.

b. Discussion of America 250:

- 1. Multimedia arts-based collection
- 2. members bring theme ideas to next meeting, consensus will choose, create categories
- 3. collect entries, displays at Tools for Schools, Aug. 6, or Aug. 20 Senior Expo at 5:30 p.m.
- 4. possibly allow community vote

c. Discussion of forming a Youth 501c3:

- 1. Deneen – 501c3 will make us eligible for grants, allow us flexibility in partnership
- 2. Lori: what/why money
- 3. Ryan: worried about another 501c3 going after the same grant funding, look at grants that other 501c3(s) can't access.

d. Discussion of building a grant-funded Community Harvest Garden:

1. garden would provide fresh produce for DuPage Township residents
2. to be spear-headed by the youth committee.
3. collaborating with the Bolingbrook Garden Club and The Conservation Foundation on the planning, building and planting of the garden.
4. as an intentional and impactful youth program garden would be a classroom to teach lifelong skills and to help develop an appreciation of the land
5. Deneen: grant is through Will County, We Grow Program
6. volunteer and partner labor
7. committee consensus: likes idea of community harvest garden; move forward with grant.

IX. Reports

a. Chairperson Report: Protocol of meetings and liaison

1. idea is presented
2. Discussion
3. Consensus yay or nay to move forward
4. Delegate further research/work to committee member
5. Liaison gives summary of committee action at regular board meeting

b. Trustee Liaison Report: TOI perspective article

X. Member Comments : none

XI. Adjournment: Grace/Ryan, 6:36 p.m.