

FIRST READING: AUGUST 09, 2022
SECOND READING/PASSAGE: SEPTEMBER 06, 2022

CITY OF MOUNT RAINIER, MARYLAND
RESOLUTION NO. 03-2022

INTRODUCED BY: MAYOR CELINA BENITEZ

CREATING THE MOUNT RAINIER
YOUTH COUNCIL

WHEREAS, the City of Mount Rainier (“the City”) wishes to create a Youth Council for the purpose of providing an opportunity for City youth to learn about local government and have a voice therein and to provide an opportunity for younger members of the community to build their leadership skills and community network.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNT RAINIER THAT the Mount Rainier Youth Council is hereby established as follows:

1. Purpose:
 - A. To provide an opportunity for the youth of Mount Rainier to acquire a greater knowledge of and appreciation for local government through active participation in the system.
 - B. To help the Mayor and City Council to address and accomplish the goals of this community by working directly with the representatives of youth.
 - C. To serve the youth of Mount Rainier by informing the City government of the needs and wishes of youth; planning and implementing social, educational, cultural and recreational activities for the youth; working with the Mayor, City Council, City department heads, schools, civic clubs, and service organizations to provide service and leadership opportunities for the youth of the City; and, helping to instill a feeling of positive self-worth and esteem, teaching respect for the rights of others, and promoting community pride.
2. Applications.
 - A. An application for appointment will be distributed to all potential members.
 - B. Applications must be completed and submitted to the City Clerk.
 - C. The City Council will review applications and select members.
3. Composition; term, appointment.
 - A. The Youth Council will consist of up to five (5) Mount Rainier youth appointed by the Mayor and City Council representing a cross-section of the City’s youth.
 - B. The Youth Council shall elect a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson and shall promptly report their names to the Mayor and City Council.
 - C. Members may be in grade levels 7 through 12, except the Chairperson shall be in the 11th or 12th grade.
 - D. The term of each member shall be one year. Members are eligible to reapply

annually if they meet member eligibility requirements.

- E. Members must:
 - i. Be and remain residents of the City of Mount Rainier;
 - ii. Attend meetings on a regular basis and inform the Youth Council of expected absences prior to the meeting from which they may be absent;
 - iii. Maintain at least a 2.5 grade point average (GPA) for the current school year;
 - iv. Fulfill the responsibilities undertaken as a member of the Youth Council; and
 - v. Conduct themselves in a manner that sets a positive example for youth in the community.

F. A member may be removed from the Youth Council by the Mayor and City Council if the member fails to meet any of the qualifications stated hereinabove or if the member is, in the judgment of the Mayor and City Council, guilty of a crime or of misfeasance, malfeasance or nonfeasance in connection with his or her membership on the Youth Council.

G. Vacancies shall be filled by the Mayor and City Council for the remainder of the unexpired term.

H. Members shall be appointed annually and shall serve one-year terms.

5. FIRST MEETING

Youth Council members will attend and be recognized at the Mayor and City Council Legislative meeting. In an election year, members will attend and be recognized at the meeting when the newly-elected Mayor and Councilmembers take the oath of office.

6. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE YOUTH COUNCIL

- A. Youth Council members shall meet at least monthly to conduct business.
- B. The Youth Council may recommend changes to these rules as needed.
- C. A quorum shall be a majority of the members serving on the Youth Council. A quorum is necessary to vote on motions and resolutions and a majority of those present is needed to pass motions and resolutions.
- D. Each meeting of the Youth Council shall be open to the public and the schedule of all meetings and agendas will be published before the meetings.
- E. Youth Council members will focus on areas they deem important to the needs of youth and areas designated by the Mayor and City Council and may bring forth issues of concern in their respective wards that need to be discussed and addressed.
- F. Youth Council members will be given the opportunity to attend meetings of other City Council-appointed boards, commissions, and committees.

7. RESPONSIBILITY OF ADVISOR AND YOUTH COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON

- A. There shall be a Youth Council Advisor, who is 21 years of age or older.
- B. The Youth Council Advisor shall be appointed by the Mayor and City Council
- C. All activities of the Youth Council shall be coordinated with the Youth Council Advisor.

D. The Youth Council Advisor will attend all Youth Council meetings and will guide the members in their proceedings and reporting to the Mayor and City Council.

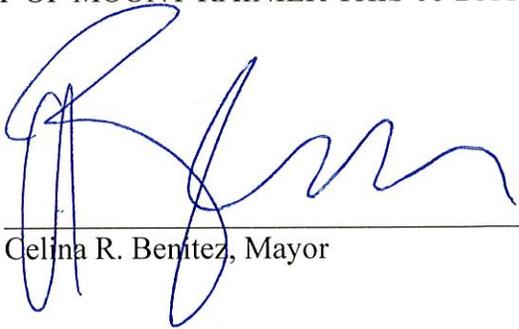
E. The Youth Council Chairperson shall be responsible for leading meetings, setting the agenda, in consultation with the Youth Council Advisor, meeting with the Mayor and City Council, scheduling Youth Council meetings, and delegating responsibilities to members.

F. The Vice Chairperson shall assist the Chairperson in all matters pertaining to the Youth Council and step into the Chairperson's role if the Chairperson cannot attend a meeting.

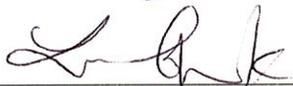
THIS RESOLUTION IS ADOPTED BY THE CITY OF MOUNT RAINIER THIS 06 DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2022.

Attest:

MSam
Melissa Sam, City Clerk



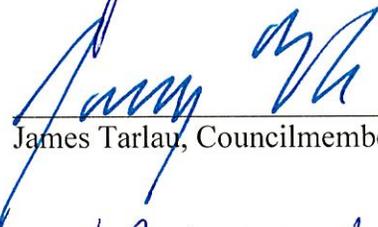
Celina R. Benitez, Mayor



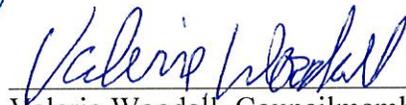
Luke Chesek, Councilmember Ward 1



Jarrett Stoltzfus, Councilmember Ward 2



James Tarlau, Councilmember Ward 1



Valerie Woodall, Councilmember Ward 2

