

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CREATION OF THE WASHTENAW COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSION, ALLOCATING AN AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED \$20,000 FOR THE PURPOSES OF SUPPORTING THE WORK AND FACILITATION OF THE YOUTH COMMISSION, AMENDING THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO ADD THE WASHTENAW COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSION TO THE COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS OR BOARDS ELIGIBLE FOR COMPENSATORY SERVICE, AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO PERFORM THESE TASKS.

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

May 15, 2019

WHEREAS, in 2018, work was begun on the creation and design of a Washtenaw County Youth Commission, being done by youth from across the county, and being facilitated by staff from The Neutral Zone; and

WHEREAS, at the Working Session of the Board of Commissioners on April 18, 2019, the recommendations and proposal for a Washtenaw County Youth Commission were presented to and discussed with the Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that a Youth Commission is important and necessary because youth have the right to share concerns and discuss issues that affect their lives, because youth can be a critical resource in supporting the Board of Commissioners in addressing the needs of youth, and because youth who participate would gain valuable experience and would be encouraged to continue their participation in community and governmental affairs; and

WHEREAS, the Youth Commission would be responsible for assessing and exploring youth issues in the community through surveys, focus groups, interviews, and town hall meetings; analyzing youth issues, educating youth about important issues affecting their community, and making recommendations to the Board of Commissioners for the County to improve its youth services; and

WHEREAS, members of the Youth Commission will be between the ages of 13 and 18 when appointed; and

WHEREAS, the Youth Commission would be composed of 21 members, 2 from each commissioner district plus 3 at-large seats, as appointed by the Board of Commissioners, and the meetings of the group would be led by four officers, selected by the youth commission from among its members: a Chair, a Vice Chair, and co-Secretaries; and

WHEREAS, a commissioner will be appointed by the Chair of the Board of Commissioners to act as Liaison between the Youth Commission and the Board of Commissioners

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners approves the formation of the Washtenaw County Youth Commission.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Washtenaw County Youth Commission will be composed of 21 members, 2 representing the each commissioner district, plus three members selected at large, and that appointees will be between the ages of 13 and 18 inclusive upon their application, to be appointed by the Board of Commissioners for a term length of one year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board of Commissioners allocates an amount not to exceed \$20,000 from the Board's "undesignated allocation" for the first year of operation, from 2019 through 2020.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Administrator to sign contracts necessary to carry out this work.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT that the Board of Commissioners amends Section X (B) of its Rules and Regulations to add "Washtenaw County Youth Commission" to the list of boards, committees, and commissions for which a commissioner may elect to receive a stipend and county mileage reimbursement.