



RMC Youth Engagement Committee Meeting

Thursday, August 7, 2025

10:00 am - 11:00 am

Zoom Teleconference

Minutes

Participants: Delegate Stuart Schmidt, Scott Warner, Brandon Rosario, John Hartline, Carmella Watkins, Roseanna Vogt, Heather Lageman

RMC Staff: Charlotte Davis, Megan D'Arcy, Molli Cole, Leeza DeCheubel

Charlotte Davis, Executive Director, called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. and welcomed the committee before beginning introductions.

John Hartline made a motion to approve the April 16, 2025, meeting minutes, and the motion was seconded by Brandon Rosario. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Ms. Davis reviewed the updated Committee Mission and Outcomes. She presented the revised mission statement, which emphasizes empowering rural youth through leadership, education, civic participation, and community collaboration. Committee members agreed that the statement accurately reflects the mission and conveys a positive, future-oriented tone, but expressed interest in continuing to brainstorm additional versions.

Members discussed inviting BAAM and Lower Shore partners to participate and noted the need to update the Committee's outcomes, particularly regarding visibility and transportation. The group also reviewed the previously identified outcomes, including tracking youth engagement initiatives, promoting innovative enrichment and workforce development programs, identifying additional counties and school districts for youth engagement expansion, working with local governments to identify boards and commissions that can include student members, and planning a student Rural Maryland Day in Annapolis.

Ms. Davis then provided an overview of previous RMC projects, which included Maryland 4-H ACTS and Youth Power, the Upper Shore Youth Engagement and Assessment Initiative Final Report, and several RMPIF/MAERDAF-funded initiatives such as the Summer Career Enrichment Program (SCEP), Building African American Minds (BAAM), and the Maryland Envirothon.

The committee agreed to focus on setting priorities and developing a committee profile at the next meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 16, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Under other business, members discussed ideas for the 2025 Rural Summit, including the possibility of offering scholarships to students, conducting outreach to Maryland 4-H and FFA programs, and identifying potential speakers.

The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 10:51 a.m.