

Bylaws of the Garland Youth Council

As modified by GYC on Feb. 11, 2014

- Definitions:**
- (a) committee meetings- meetings for a particular committee
 - (b) Regular meetings- meetings on the second Tuesday of the month for all of the Garland Youth Council members
 - (c) Term- one calendar year beginning in September and ending in August
 - (d) President - the person, elected by the Garland Youth Council members, who is responsible for running meetings and helping all officers with their duties.
 - (e) Vice President - the person, elected by the Garland Youth Council members, who is responsible for running meetings when the chair person is not present, and helping all officers with their duties.
 - (f) Secretary-the person, elected by the Garland Youth Council members, who is responsible for taking minutes, and making sure the Garland Youth Council staff liaison has the updated minutes.
 - (g) Historian- the person(s), selected by the Garland Youth Council officers, who is responsible for taking photos of Garland Youth Council activities, posting those to social media, and for other activities related to keeping track of the history of the Garland Youth Council.

Section 1: There is hereby created a Garland Youth Council for the City

of Garland, Texas, consisting of 20 members all of whom shall be a high school aged (grades 9-12) student and reside in Garland.

Section 2: All Youth Council members will be selected via an open-application process at the end of the school year, and may serve one calendar year, with the option of applying for reappointment until the student has graduated high school. Each member of the Garland City Council may appoint or reappoint up to two members each year. The current chair of the Garland Youth Council may appoint or reappoint up to two members each year. Applications are available at Garland City Hall and on the City of Garland website and may be submitted through the Garland Youth Council Staff Liaison. The applications will be available to schools and individuals in the spring and should be completed and returned by the Friday following the May City Council election date. Selection criteria will be based on the applicant's leadership abilities and community involvement. Reappointments will be based on the reapplying member's past participation in and commitment to Youth Council activities. Applicants should attend at least one Youth Council meeting before being selected to serve on the Youth Council.

Section 3: The service year is defined as beginning September 1 and ending August 31. The full Youth Council shall meet on the second Tuesday of each month. The Youth Council will designate committees to coordinate Teens in the Driver Seat activities, service projects, promotion of Youth Council activities and other activities. Committees will meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month.

Section 4: The Youth Council shall elect from its membership a President, Vice President, and Secretary for one-year terms of office commencing the first meeting after being sworn into office. The President and Vice President will be elected to a one-year term and serve no more than two consecutive terms in the same office. The President must be a returning Youth Council member. The Secretary will be elected to a one-year term with no limitations on number of terms to be served. The President, Vice President, Secretary and Staff Liaison(s) will accept applications from the Youth Council membership to serve as Historian. Two to three people will be selected based on their demonstrated abilities and desire to implement the responsibilities. At least one Historian must be a returning member. All of these officers will serve as the Executive Committee for the Garland Youth Council.

Section 5: In order to vote on any posted agenda item, a majority of the Youth Council members must be present.

Section 6: Suggestions regarding the Youth Council can either be proposed at meetings or sent through e-mail to the Staff Liaisons and the Executive Committee. E-mailed suggestions must be posted on an agenda for discussion at a regular meeting before the suggestion can be adopted.

Section 7: All Youth Council members should have the opportunity to have input on any decisions before they are finalized. Meeting agendas will be available to all Youth Council members by e-mail and on the City of Garland website at least 72-hours prior to the scheduled meeting. Any members who cannot be present must provide their input in writing or by e-mail to the Staff

Liaisons and the Executive Committee prior to the meeting. Such input will be included in the official meeting minutes.

Section 8: Youth Council members are allowed to miss four regularly scheduled meetings. Officers are allowed to miss three regularly scheduled meetings. If members are unable to attend weekend activities or events, those absences will not be counted. Excessive absences will cause a member's appointment to be reviewed by the Youth Council officers and staff liaison. Such a review will take into consideration whether the member consistently gave prior notification of his or her absence, contributed input via email or other means, and participated regularly in other Youth Council activities.

Section 9: If a Youth Council member cannot attend or will be late to a meeting, the Youth Council Staff Liaison and the Executive Committee should be notified in advance.

Section 10: Visitors outside of the Youth Council are encouraged to attend any of Youth Council's regular meetings and committee meetings to give insight to the discussions.

Section 11: If a Youth Council member resigns for any reason prior to January 1, a replacement may be appointed by the City Council member who appointed the resigning member. The original applicant pool for that year's Youth Council should be the first source for such a replacement; otherwise new applicants may be recruited.