



IYC Planning Meeting Notes

July 31st 2012

Downtown Central Library



Some Basic Notes

- The House Session facilitator this year will be one of the regional chairs
 - o Which regional chair?
 - o What if a regional chair person wants to run for higher office once they're at the IYC House Session? Will the their runner up replace them? (possible bylaw amendment

- o Proposed Amendment to bylaws: Seniors may not run for office because they need to be available for the following winter, spring, summer, and following fall. They may participate in executive committee work, though.
- If the regional chair has written a bill for consideration by congress, then they will not be able to present it themselves (because that would be biased). Instead, they can choose someone to advocate for their bill material on the floor and will retain neutrality as a facilitator.
- Voting for President, Vice President, and Secretary-Treasurer (this position has become a combined position) will take place on Saturday, not Friday. This will give students at least a day to get to know each other on a personal basis, rather than only voting for the people they knew previously to attending the IYC House Session. This avoids the "voting for your friends" dynamic and gives potential officers some space to campaign for their office and tell others why they'd be a good choice.

- Responsibilities for Regional Chairs this year will include subproject management of the ideas and initiatives around three committee responsibilities: recruitment, fundraising, and planning for the IYC House Session. There are many ways to enhance these efforts. More about regional chairs will be decided this year as well.
- **Idea:** Each region (and regional chair) could take an IYC endorsed bill after three bills have passed for the 2012 year after the IYC House Session. Each region will manage the lobbying and any other additional work deemed necessary for their respective bill.
- **IYC Planning meetings** could use Skype or GoToMeeting technology to replace the face-to-face time in a way that reaps the same result of seeing and talking to people.
- **Regional meetings** would be more effective if certain meeting locations were changed based on population density (and distances) rather than simple regional category.
 - o Sioux City: Council Bluffs
 - o Des Moines: Council Bluffs
- That way S.C. people are not asked to drive 3.5 hours each way, but rather just 1.5
- DM people, because there are many, will easily be able to arrange transport via the coordinator, who can rent a van to take everyone
- Council Bluffs people will not be stranded – they usually need aide getting a ride to meetings
- Ottumwa, Muscatine, and Burlington can all have a meeting together because they are close together and usually carpool with a teacher liaison. So the second regional meeting will be in Ottumwa for now.
- Should the third meeting be in Iowa City?

Other Notes

- Biggest access issue based on income level; Transportation
- Maintain Saturday Session at Catholic Diosis: Yes.
- Some students said they could ask the local Kiwanis or Rotary club for IYC sponsorship money
- IYC Graphic Design – Nick and Ethel (and someone else?) said they knew how to do some of that

Recruitment Plan (as outlined on the board so far)

****Proposed Deadline(s) for 2012**

Applications: May 31st

1) Friend-to-friend recruitment

- a. Have 5 friends fill out an application. Send applications in if they need help with that.
- b. Seek out cross-friend or cross-group peers so we don't get all "the same kind of kids." Try asking someone in sports, someone you don't know very well but who's cool/nice, and then maybe ask other people who are in similar clubs and activities to yourself. We like all applicants, we just want to keep our eye on diversity and inclusion as well.
- c. Target freshman or sophomores to get more variance besides juniors and seniors and to increase multi-year involvement
- d. Talk to student leaders in schools to help spread the word and help others apply or participate

2) Talk with school officials

- a. school counselors, special ed. instructors, government classes, and other teachers/administrators of interest about IYC and ask if they want to spread the word to other students they may know of that would be good for the program.
- b. School Counselor Conference
 - i. Dates: _____
- c. AP Teachers Conference
 - i. Dates: _____

3) Mass media/communications effort

- a. Social media
- b. Email friends of yours or younger family members
- c. Publications: school newspaper, regular newspaper
- d. Flyering
 - i. In government-class area
 - ii. In literal government areas
 - iii. In other appropriate areas

4) Community Liaisons

- a. Boys State/Girls State
 - i. ask them to spread the word about IYC and hand out materials at their event

- ii. ask if we can add information about our event to information about their event

Saturday Session

1) Backend Lobbying

- a. News Releases
 - i. School paper, regular paper
 - ii. Official letters to legislators
 - iii. Emails to the legislator
 - iv. Consult with representatives in partnership with IYC for tips and tricks

2) Consult with senators and representatives, get their advice and input during planning committee meetings (one for each passed bill). They will sit in on these meetings as advisors. Talk with them about Plausibility of each idea.

3) Letters to sponsors

4) Arrange carpool system while everyone is there on a large map posted up somehow so people can see who lives where

5) IYC yearly surveys

6) Decide which legislators IYC wants to target and work with

7) Consider “Civic Action” as an alternative and addition to backend lobbying

- a. Could be a service project
- b. Could be getting some type of work done in some nonlegislative way and making an impact that way – which is still civics in action.

8) Lobbying (Interface)

- a. Will meet at least once if not twice during the real wintertime Iowa legislative session to join up and talk to state senators and representatives about IYC’s endorsed bills. Last year, we met there on President’s Day, because a of students had that day off school and the legislator did not have it off.
- b. Use carpooling
- c. Can bring non IYC friends if they’d like to check out the program and/or the Capitol
- d. Cover which representatives live where

Multimedia Communication Methods

- Social Media
- Twitter
- Email
- IYCthundercat

Friday

- 10-15 minutes for each bill
- Facilitator = Regional Chair (see previous notes)
- Group photo
- Lunch
 - o Invite Lt. Governor?
- Have a guest(s) legislator invited for the debates?

Dream Forward Dinner and Rec. Night

- No entertainment this year – use the time making conversation with other youth congress members at dinner
- Guest Speaker: yes
- Dance: yes, 3 hours is not long enough for some
- Same DJ: yes
- Square Dancing, because could be more inclusive?: No
- Pool (with beach ball) and board games also an option for the Rec. Night
- Give appreciation tickets (and certificates) to sponsors and other VIP supporters
- Let the bill author's talk about the bills that they worked on that passed through IYC this year

Topics Not Covered

- Thursday Evening Check In Implementation
- Thursday Night basic orientation and expectations talk – what to cover...what questions to people have on the first night?
- How IYC folks can sign up for helping tasks in an organized fashion
- Electing a “game master” to start up group games Thursday night (like the ninja game)
- Chaperone Recruitment
- Regional Meeting Basic Agenda for all meetings
- Picture how the carpool sign-up map would work at the Saturday session
- Second biggest access issue based on income level: lack of formal clothing and knowledge about shopping for it
- Who will facilitate committee meetings on Friday in the morning?
- Best protocol for student monitoring at night