



CITY OF OREGON CITY YOUTH ADVISORY COMMISSION AGENDA

**Commission Chambers, Libke Public Safety Facility, 1234 Linn Ave, Oregon City
Monday, June 12, 2023 at 7:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

CALL TO ORDER

1. Tour and Q&A with Captain Shaun Davis, Oregon City Police Department

DISCUSSION ITEM

2. Project Discussion

COMMUNICATIONS

3. Staff Liaison Update: Emma Worthge, Community Engagement Specialist
4. Minutes Approval

ADJOURNMENT

PUBLIC COMMENT GUIDELINES

Complete a Comment Card prior to the meeting and submit it to the clerk. When the Mayor/Chair calls your name, proceed to the speaker table, and state your name and city of residence into the microphone. Each speaker is given three (3) minutes to speak. To assist in tracking your speaking time, refer to the timer on the table.

As a general practice, the commission does not engage in discussion with those making comments.

Electronic presentations are permitted but shall be delivered to the clerk 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

ADA NOTICE

The location is ADA accessible. Hearing devices may be requested from the City Recorder prior to the meeting. Individuals requiring other assistance must make their request known 48 hours preceding the meeting by contacting the City Recorder's Office at 503-657-0891.

Agenda Posted at City Hall, Pioneer Community Center, Library, City Website.

OPINION
JOHN LEWIS

Together, You Can Redeem the Soul of Our Nation

Though I am gone, I urge you to
answer the highest calling of your heart and
stand up for what you truly believe.



By John Lewis

Mr. Lewis, the civil rights leader who died on July 17, wrote this essay shortly before his death, to be published upon the day of his funeral.

July 30, 2020

While my time here has now come to an end, I want you to know that in the last days and hours of my life you inspired me. You filled me with hope about the next chapter of the great American story when you used your power to make a difference in our society. Millions of people motivated simply by human compassion

laid down the burdens of division. Around the country and the world you set aside race, class, age, language nationality to demand respect for human dignity.

That is why I had to visit Black Lives Matter Plaza in Washington, though I was admitted to the hospital the following day. I just had to see and feel it for myself that, after many years of silent witness, the truth is still marching on.

Emmett Till was my George Floyd. He was my Rayshard Brooks, Sandra Bland and Breonna Taylor. He was 14 when he was killed, and I was only 15 years old at the time. I will never ever forget the moment when it became so clear that he could easily have been me. In those days, fear constrained us like an imaginary prison, and troubling thoughts of potential brutality committed for no understandable reason were the bars.

Though I was surrounded by two loving parents, plenty of brothers, sisters and cousins, their love could not protect me from the unholy oppression waiting just outside that family circle. Unchecked, unrestrained violence and government-sanctioned terror had the power to turn a simple stroll to the store for some Skittles or an innocent morning jog down a lonesome country road into a nightmare. If we are to survive as one unified nation, we must discover what so readily takes root in our hearts that could rob Mother Emanuel Church in South Carolina of her brightest and best, shoot unwitting concertgoers in Las Vegas and choke to death the hopes and dreams of a gifted violinist like Elijah McClain.

Like so many young people today, I was searching for a way out, or some might say a way in, and then I heard the voice of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on an old radio. He was talking about the philosophy and discipline of nonviolence. He said we are all complicit when we tolerate injustice. He said it is not enough to say it will get better by and by. He said each of us has a moral obligation to stand up, speak up and speak out. When you see something that is not right, you must say something. You must do something. Democracy is not a state. It is an act, and each generation must do its part to help build what we called the Beloved Community, a nation and world society at peace with itself.

Ordinary people with extraordinary vision can redeem the soul of America by getting in what I call good trouble, necessary trouble. Voting and participating in the democratic process are key. The vote is the most powerful nonviolent change agent you have in a democratic society. You must use it because it is not guaranteed. You can lose it.

You must also study and learn the lessons of history because humanity has been involved in this soul-wrenching, existential struggle for a very long time. People on every continent have stood in your shoes, through decades and centuries before you. The truth does not change, and that is why the answers worked out long ago can help you find solutions to the challenges of our time. Continue to build union between movements stretching across the globe because we must put away our willingness to profit from the exploitation of others.

Though I may not be here with you, I urge you to answer the highest calling of your heart and stand up for what you truly believe. In my life I have done all I can to demonstrate that the way of peace, the way of love and nonviolence is the more excellent way. Now it is your turn to let freedom ring.

When historians pick up their pens to write the story of the 21st century, let them say that it was your generation who laid down the heavy burdens of hate at last and that peace finally triumphed over violence, aggression and war. So I say to you, walk with the wind, brothers and sisters, and let the spirit of peace and the power of everlasting love be your guide.

John Lewis, the civil rights leader and congressman who died on July 17, wrote this essay shortly before his death.

Item #3.

The Times is committed to publishing a diversity of letters to the editor. We'd like to hear what you think about this or any of our articles. Here are some tips. And here's our email: letters@nytimes.com.

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Photograph of John Lewis by David Deal/Redux

YOUTH ADVISORY COMMISSION

Commission Chambers, 625 Center Street, Oregon City

Monday, May 8th, 2023 at 7:00 PM

Attendance

- Bella Bone
- Bailey Brown
- Henry Cardona
- Gunnar Datria
- Justin Evers
- Melanie Gabriel
- Hannah Granderson
- Julian Guerra-Molina
- Alix Jenik
- Myles Kinney
- Landon Lu
- Brianna Nizic
- Samuel Upkes

Excused

- Alana Plaisance
- Cambria Rich

Staff Present

- Denyse McGriff, Mayor of Oregon City
- Adam Marl, City Commissioner
- Jarod Lyman, Community Communications Manager
- Emma Worthge, Community Engagement Specialist
- Tony Konkol, City Manager of Oregon City

ROLL CALL**CALL TO ORDER**

The Youth Advisory Commission voted to approve the minutes of the April 10th, 2023 Meeting. The motion was moved by Julian Guerra-Molina, and seconded by Brianna Nizic. The vote was unanimously approved.

PRESENTATION

Tony Konkol, the City Manager of Oregon City gave a presentation on DEI & City Governmental Structure. After a personal history of his background in Oregon City's government, Tony explained the levels of government, from local to federal. There was a lengthy discussion between Commission Members and Tony, pertaining to how each part of the government works together to create a cohesive city structure. Commission Members were very excited to possibly have the Oregon City Police Chief give a presentation at the next meeting.

BYLAW DISCUSSION

Commission Members discussed their term limits, as were previously decided by the Mayor to be from September through June. Due to late start of the Commission, Members motioned to extend their terms through September of this year. The idea of adding a virtual attendance option for summer was brought up, to be discussed in-depth at a later meeting. The motion to approve the bylaws with the added September term limits was moved by Gunnar Datria, and seconded by Bailey Brown. The vote was unanimously approved.

OATH OF OFFICE

Bella Bone took the Oath of Office led by Mayor Denyse McGriff, and was sworn in.

PROJECT DISCUSSION

Julian Guerra-Molina brought up that he attempted to email the middle school counselors in the Oregon City School District to gather information on the history class changes, and that his & his high school counselor's emails have been ignored. Denyse offered that she would attempt to find the curriculum supervisor for the ORSD. Commission Members have an idea to draft a formal letter to be presented to the School District when the new School Board member terms begin. Members were unsure if they want to complete one project or multiple, but would like to focus on one project for the summer. Next steps include gathering information on the middle school history class issue, and will bring it to the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned, with the next Youth Advisory Commission meeting scheduled for June 12th, 2023.