



CITY OF OREGON CITY YOUTH ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

City Hall Commission Chambers, 625 Center St., Oregon City, OR 97045
Monday, October 21, 2024 at 7:15 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by Chair Julian Guerra Molina.

PRESENT: 15

Cole Solari, Desi Hanson, Elyjah McFarland, Gaby Rysdam, Hyrum Freestone, Jack Solari, Julian Guerra Molina, Justin Evers, Maxwell Bishop, Melanie Gabriel, Myles Kinney, Sydney McFarland, Adam Marl, Denyse McGriff

STAFF: *Hannah Schmidt*

EXCUSED: *Sofia Weis*

ABSENT: *None*

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were provided.

3. GOAL ALIGNMENT SESSION

3.a. The Commission discussed a variety of project topics and voted on the topics that would like to address:

- Youth Drug Abuse (11 votes)
- Youth Houselessness (6 votes)
- Physical Health (8 votes)
- Beatifying Oregon City (3 votes)
- Election Involvement (8 votes)

The Youth Advisory Commission identified their top priority as a group is to limit the accessibility of nicotine products for youth to aid in reducing youth addiction. All members agreed of creating this topic as their main priority. Members emphasized that they need to figure out how to reach adolescents that are struggling with drug abuse.

b. The Youth Advisory Commission created the following subcommittees:

1. Election Involvement Subcommittee

- This subcommittee will work on reducing the voting age limit for local school board elections.
- The following members have signed up to join the Election Involvement Subcommittee:
 - Justin Evers
 - Sydney McFarland
 - Myles Kinney
 - Gaby Rysdam

2. Youth Houselessness Subcommittee

- This subcommittee will work on addressing youth houselessness within Oregon City.
- The following members have signed up to join the Youth Houselessness Subcommittee:
 - Melanie Gabriel
 - Max Bishop
 - Jack Solari

3. Physical/Mental Health Subcommittee

- This subcommittee will work on addressing the issues surrounding physical and mental health resources for youth within the City of Oregon City.
- The following members have signed up to join the Physical/Mental Health Subcommittee:
 - Elyjah McFarland
 - Cole Solari
 - Hyrum Freestone
 - Desi Hanson

Sofia Weis was not present at this meeting and will decide which subcommittee to join at the next Youth Advisory Commission meeting. Members will work on creating solidified goals for each subcommittee at the next meeting utilizing the SMART Goal sheets. Moving forward, the Youth Advisory Commission meeting Agendas will have designated time frames within the meeting to conduct work within their specific subcommittees.

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. Information on the 2025 "If I Were Mayor..." Contest has been made available by the Oregon Mayor's Association. The state contest deadline is April 11, 2025. The Youth Advisory Commission will be judging the local contest again, but will allow certain members to participate in the contest if they so desire. Those who participate within the contest will not be allowed to judge the local Oregon City entries. The local Oregon City contest deadline will be on May 30, 2025. The Youth Advisory Commission will host a special meeting on Monday, May 31 to judge the

local “If I Were Mayor...” Contest. This year, the Youth Advisory Commission emphasized that there needs to be improvement on:

- Clarifying the rules and scope of the contest.
 - Only Oregon City residents and/or students within the Oregon City School District can submit entries for the local Oregon City contest.
- Clearly identifying the prize for the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prize winners in each category.
- Advertising to the high school age demographic

Hannah Schmidt will be sure to showcase the multimedia state winners from the 2023-2024 “If I Were Mayor...” Contest for reference.

- 4.b. After a short discussion, Myles Kinney moved to approve the amended Youth Advisory Commission Bylaws; Incorporating Process and Criteria for Youth Advisory Commission Members to attend the Oregon Youth Summit. Jack Solari seconded. Unanimous approval was received.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

- 5.a. Hannah Schmidt gave information about the October Staff Report to the Youth Advisory Commission. Further discussion about creating a Youth Advisory Commission inquiry form needs to take place in the near future.
- 5.b. Desi Hanson, Myles Kinney, and Jack Solari attended the World Networking Café event. The members reported on learning about the numerous resources available to youth and adults who are struggling with drug addiction. They also emphasized how grateful the organizations were for their participation as youth within the community.
- 5.c. Max Bishop attended the Clackamas River Water Providers Watershed Tour and described varying facilities that the group toured along with the process that occurs in order for residents of Oregon City to receive clean drinking water.
- 5.d. Elyjah McFarland worked as a volunteer at the Clackamas Community College Indigenous People's Day. Myles Kinney and Desi Hanson volunteered as representatives of the City at the Oregon City booth at this event as well.
- 5.e. Julian Guerra Molina and Desi Hanson attended the Tateshina Sister City Welcome Dinner where they conversed with the fellow Tateshine students and government representatives.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

6.a. The Youth Advisory Commission looked over the Meeting Minutes from September 9, 2024. Myles Kinney moved to approve the minutes. Jack Solari seconded. Unanimous approval was received.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 p.m. by Chair Julian Guerra Molina

Respectfully submitted,

Hannah Schmidt, Community Engagement Specialist
Date Approved: 11/18/2024