



CITY OF OREGON CITY YOUTH ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

City Hall Commission Chambers, 625 Center St., Oregon City, OR 97045
Monday, April 14, 2025 at 7:15 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Julian Guerra Molina at 7:19 p.m.

PRESENT: 12

Justin Evers, Jack Solari, Julian Guerra Molina, Desi Hanson, Sydney McFarland, Hyrum Freestone, Max Bishop, Elyjah McFarland, Gaby Rysdam, Commissioner Adam Marl, Commissioner Scott Wilson, Mayor Denyse McGriff.

STAFF: *Hannah Schmidt*

EXCUSED: *Cole Solari, Melanie Gabriel, Myles Kinney, and Sofia Weis*

ABSENT: *None*

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were provided.

3. PRESENTATIONS

- a. Jasiel Lopez from Metro presented the Nature in Neighborhoods Community Choice Grants program which is part of a \$475 million bond approved in 2018. The grants support community-led projects focusing on climate resilience, racial equity, and meaningful engagement. Criteria include creating physical entities owned by local governments and enhancing nature connections, fish and wildlife habitat, and climate resilience. Grants range from \$10,000 to \$250,000 and covers areas within Gladstone, Johnson City, Milwaukie, Oregon City, and parts of North Clackamas Parks District. The process features idea collection, design workshops, voting, and project selection. Members were urged to submit ideas, join workshops, and become community advocates, Metro will host idea-generating workshops at the date/time and locations below:

- May 17, 2025
1 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Gladstone Library
- June 2, 2025
11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Milwaukie City Hall

- June 7, 2025
11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Oregon City Library

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. Members who attended the 2025 Oregon Cancer Action Day participated in eight meetings with legislators on April 1 to advocate for Senate Bill 702. Members shared personal experiences and emphasized the importance of Senate Bill 702. Attendees also conveyed opposing viewpoints expressed by some legislators regarding the bill's potential impact.

5. WORKING GROUP BREAK OUT SESSION

The commission broke out into working groups from 8:18 p.m. – 8:45 p.m.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

- a. The commission discussed recent updates to Senate Bill 702. It was reported that the bill now prohibits the sale of flavored inhalant delivery system products and flavored tobacco products, except in stores licensed by the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission. The bill also gives more power to local governments to adopt stricter regulations. The commission noted that the bill no longer includes restrictions on smokeless tobacco products like “Zyn”.
- b. The Youth Houselessness working group reported that they are awaiting responses to a survey sent to various organizations. The survey is collecting data on the necessities of houseless youth in the area. Once sufficient data is collected, the group plans to compile a proposal to bring to the Youth Advisory Commission.
- c. The Election Involvement working group has gathered more information and evidence regarding their original proposal. They have scheduled a meeting to create a letter to propose to the Youth Advisory Commission, which would then be sent to the City Commission and potentially the Clackamas Commission.
- d. The Youth Physical and Mental Health working group discussed potential project ideas for the Community Choice Grants program. Ideas included skate parks, community gardens, biking paths, and less hostile architecture in parks. They plan to talk to students at their schools to gather more ideas before the next meeting.

- e. Jack Solari reported on the program's upcoming funding opportunity for youth tobacco prevention projects. He mentioned that the Youth Advisory Commission could potentially apply for funding, with applications due around April 28th. The commission discussed the possibility of applying but noted that there are currently no specific projects that would require funding.
- f. Hannah Schmidt provided staff updates on several items:
 - 1. The Honorary Page Program at the state capitol was discussed with encouragement for interested members to apply.
 - 2. The "If I Were Mayor" contest winners will be announced on Wednesday, April 16th at 7 PM. Commission members were encouraged to attend.
 - 3. A native planting event at Abernathy Park is scheduled for Friday, April 18th from 4-6 PM. Several members confirmed their attendance.
 - 4. The suicide prevention app listening session is scheduled for Monday, April 21st from 7-8:30 PM. Several members confirmed their attendance.
 - 5. The Youth Advisory Commission's last regular meeting for the term is scheduled for June 9th, 2025.
 - 6. Youth Advisory Commission applications will open on May 5 and close on June 27. Hannah Schmidt was directed by the commission to reach out to schools within the Oregon City School District to have current members encourage students to apply for the 2025-2026 term.
 - 7. The commission received information about an "Arts for Hearts" contest organized by the Oregon City Arts Commission.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. The commission reviewed the minutes from the March 10 Rivercrest Tour, March 10 meeting, and March 31 meeting. Commissioner Marl pointed out that Cole Solari's name was misspelled in the March 10 meeting minutes and the adjournment time needed to be amended to 8:55 p.m. instead of 6:55 p.m. Justin Evers moved to approve the minutes as amended. Jack Solari seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Julian Guerra Molina adjourned the meeting at 9:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hannah Schmidt, Community Engagement Specialist

Date Approved: 5/12/2025