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## CITY OF OREGON CITY YOUTH ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

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City Hall Mt. Hood Room, 625 Center St., Oregon City, OR 97045  
Monday, March 30, 2026 at 7:15 PM

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### 1. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Chair Justin Evers called the meeting to order at 7:21 p.m.

#### **PRESENT: 1**

*Bettie Chappell, Donald Bredehoeft, Cole Solari, Emma Artman, Evan Conley, Gaby Rysdam, Hadley Taylor, Hyrum Freestone, Jack Solari, Justin Evers, McKenzie Gilmore, Sydney McFarland, Commissioner Adam Marl, and Mayor Denyse McGriff.*

**STAFF:** *Hannah Schmidt, Community Engagement Specialist*

**EXCUSED:** Max Bishop and Myles Kinney

**ABSENT:** *Elyjah McFarland*

### 2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comments were provided.

### 3. **IF I WERE MAYOR JUDGING**

- a. Staff Liaison Hannah Schmidt reported that 17 poster submissions were received for this year's contest. All submissions were displayed around the room and labeled with corresponding entry numbers. Commissioners were instructed to use the poster rubric included in the agenda packet to evaluate each submission and submit their scores to staff. Schmidt deferred to Chair Justin Evers regarding the allotted judging time. Chair Evers indicated that commissioners would have 30-40 minutes to complete their evaluations.

The commission reconvened at 8:00 p.m., at which time Schmidt announced the three highest-scoring posters. Chair Evers then requested that the top six posters be displayed for further consideration. Commissioners were instructed to re-evaluate these entries and indicate their top three selections using tally marks on Post-it notes labeled with the corresponding poster numbers. The commission took additional time to review and rank their top choices.

Following final evaluation and score tabulation, the top three posters were entries #12, #4, and #8. Commissioner Hadley Taylor moved to award first place to

poster #8, second place to poster #12, and third place to poster #4. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jack Solari. The motion passed with nine votes in favor and two opposed.

- b. Staff Liaison Hannah Schmidt reported that eight essay submissions were received for this year's contest. Six staff judges evaluated all submissions, resulting in the selection of the top three essays (#4, #5, and #6) for commission review.

Commissioners used the essay rubric provided in the agenda packet to evaluate these finalists and submitted their scores to staff. Based on the final tabulation, essay #6 received the highest score and was designated as the first-place winner by the Youth Advisory Commission.

Following the essay evaluations, Mayor McGriff invited the commission to review and provide feedback on the single multimedia submission. Schmidt presented the video, after which the commission discussed whether the entry should be awarded first place and advanced to the state level or not receive an award. A majority of commissioners expressed support for awarding the entry first place and advancing it. Schmidt noted that the final decision rests with Mayor McGriff, as the Youth Advisory Commission had previously elected to abstain from judging the high school category to avoid potential conflicts of interest.

#### **4. COMMUNICATIONS**

- a. Schmidt provided updates on upcoming Youth Advisory Commission opportunities, including the "If I Were Mayor..." contest announcement, a presentation invitation from the Oregon City Rotary Club, upcoming tour and presentation schedules, and various volunteer opportunities within the community.

#### **5. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Justin Evers adjourned the meeting at 9:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Hannah Schmidt, Community Engagement Specialist  
Date Approved: April 13, 2026