



YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

3:30 p.m. – Webex

Present Youth Advisory Council Members: Brooke Melo, Quinton Michael, Caroline Nielsen, Vanessa Partida, Nicole Beltman, Sabrina Zhang, Annamika Konkola

West Linn Staff Members: Luke Borland, Chris Myers

Guest Speakers: Jamie Dunphy, Chris Myers

Absent: Sophia Johnson, Sydney Dow, Misha Rana, Madeline Brown, Sophia Martella, AJ Tan, Emme Staten, Lily Walsh, Dylan Jones

Call to Order: Meeting called to order by Annamika at 3:34 pm.

Guest Speaker: The YAC was joined virtually by a guest from the American Cancer Society. Annamika thanked Jamie for reaching out to the YAC and being flexible with the meeting. Jamie talked to the YAC about what he does and what the “Flavors Hook Oregon Kids” coalition’s mission is. He explained that he is a lobbyist focused on changing the law around policies that will help improve cancer, and he says tobacco products are currently where his work is most impactful. Then, he explained previous work in Washington and Multnomah Counties, and with the Lake Oswego, Milwaukie, and Happy Valley City/youth councils. As of 3/19, 11 cities and 2 school boards have passed a resolution calling on the state of Oregon to pass a flavored tobacco restriction. He offered to send template language, fact-checked data, and other resources through email to the YAC. Annamika and Sabrina asked about his work with Lake Oswego and whether he is the main point person for all youth councils in the coalition.

The YAC thanked Jamie and he left his contact information in the meeting chat.

Point of Order:

Luke introduced himself as a staff member in City of West Linn and informed the YAC that he will be stepping in for Danielle with the YAC because she is out on leave.

As a point of order, he brought up going back to amend the agenda because with the technical difficulties, the meeting got away from the original order (Did not have public comment or approval of minutes before the guest speaker).

Annamika motioned to move the American Cancer Society's presentation forward from Item 4 to Item 2 for the 3/19 meeting's agenda. Sabrina seconded the motion.

All present YAC members voted in favor.

Public Comment: None

Approval of Minutes: Because of last-minute staff liaison changes, previous sets of minutes could not be sent to the group for prior review. They will be approved as soon as possible.

Vision 43 Involvement: Annamika thanked Chris for coming back to speak with the YAC and for the update email he sent last month. Chris updated the group that he was at the recent St Patrick's Day event handing out cards and talking to people about the Vision43 project. He reported that it was super well-received; he talked to about 85 people and handed out 200 project cards. There are 25 more events scheduled: Chris said he will send the YAC the rough draft of the event calendar so YAC members could potentially volunteer or listen to community conversations.

Chris asked Brooke about progress on the art contest. Brooke explained that she talked to the main art teacher at WLHS who said she would support the YAC with the art contest. The YAC would just need to collect all the information and give it to her so she can spread the word for students.

Chris asked whether it would be helpful to send the YAC a collection of what we had been thinking about the project with renderings of Highway 43, basics about the project, etc. to provide something that Brooke could pass along to the teacher.

Brooke said that would help a lot, and suggested an infographic would also help to have something to post on social media or around the school.

Chris also updated that he rallied commitment for art contest prizes around City Hall. The YAC expressed excitement.

He also said that after talking to City Council members, he has seen interest in doing a display in the City Hall lobby as part of a rotating community art display. Art contest entries would also be displayed online through photos.

Annamika suggested including these opportunities for community art displays on the flier and information, referencing previous YAC conversations around prizes and the value of recognition in the city.

The group discussed the best timeline for the project. Brooke and Annamika agreed that it would be best to get project information out as soon as possible. Luke suggested the beginning of May as a deadline.

Chris asked for suggestions for tabling event locations that are not sporting events. Nicole and Sabrina found dates for the high school's spring concerts, and Annamika and Sabrina suggested May Day.

Future Plans: Annamika asked Sabrina about what happened at the last Community Recreation Center steering committee that she attended. Sabrina mentioned the email she sent to the group about 1-2 more youth representative openings at the committee meetings.

Annamika and Sabrina talked about inviting the Parks and Rec Department lead/staff to a future YAC meeting because of YAC connection and previous involvement in the Rec Center.

The YAC concluded that for member schedules, there will be no June meeting; May 21 will be the last 2023-2024 school year meeting.

As the new YAC liaison, Luke mentioned being able to help arrange someone from the Parks and Rec being at a future meeting and being a resource to the YAC.

Adjournment: Annamika adjourned the meeting at 4:28 PM

Record of meeting chat:

