

YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

Tuesday, March 14, 2023

4 p.m. – WebEx

Present Youth Advisory Council Members: Madeline Brown, Nate DeMoro, Jake Frazier, Annamika Konkola, Quinton Michael, Declan Winder

West Linn Staff Members: Danielle Choi

West Linn City Council Members: None

Guest Speakers: Luke Borland, West Linn Public Works Communications Specialist

Absent: Caroline Nielsen, Karina Rower, AJ Tan, Sabrina Zhang

Call to Order: Meeting called to order by President Annamika at 4:00pm.

Public Comment: None

Discussion of quorum: Quorum established.

Approval of Minutes: Annamika motioned to approve the minutes from the January and February with attendance correction to February minutes, Madeline seconded the motion.

Guest Speaker: Luke Borland, the public works communications specialist for the city of West Linn, attended the meeting to answer general questions the council might have about the proposed tolling of the Abernathy Bridge. The concerns discussed included the potential effect the diversions might have on local roads and the differences between the traffic model ODOT presented and the one from West Linn's traffic study. There is concern that the location of the toll pantries could contribute to gridlock. One change that has been proposed is moving the pantries closer to the bridge. But Luke brought up the importance of a seismically sound bridge in the region and how it needs to be paid for somehow.

Madeline asked about the logistics of the price variation of the tolls. Luke said it would promote local travel at less busy times as the prices would be lower then. Annamika asked

about potential alternatives to tolling and Danielle brought up past pushes for a gas tax. Luke responded that due to the increase in electric vehicles, a gas tax would not be as effective as it used to be. Also a proposed mileage tax aimed at decreasing general wear and tear of the road was extremely unpopular. Annamika brought up that a disproportionate cost would be placed on West Linn's citizens. Danielle and Luke agreed that many workers have spoken about this to the state legislature, but there has been a lack of student voice. Luke brought up that small cities like West Linn don't have the same level of sway at the state level as larger cities like Portland

Project Check-Ins:

Annamika opened the floor for discussion of I-205. Sabrina emailed the council the proposed letter to the state legislature.

Communications Plan Update - Danielle said the West Linn police department approved the plan for a YAC member(s) to push out content on social media. There has been no date set to train some members of the police department yet, but when it happens, Danielle will attend the meeting and relay the information to the YAC member(s) concerned.

National Drug & Alcohol Fact Week - Jake and Caroline had no new business. Danielle noted that Interim Mayor Rory Bialostosky will announce that West Linn will honor NDAFW at the high school. There was discussion of just supporting/backing what TAB has already put together. Annamika asked about the schedule from TAB and if Jake could gather info from Pam Pierce. Daniel asked if anybody was interested in creating an infographic to push out on YAC based on the info TAB provided. Jake suggested sticking to TAB's original message and just reposting what they already have.

Oppenlander - [student magazine] reached out and asked for comment regarding the Oppenlander summary judgment. Jake offered to have an interview with the magazine. Annamika wondered if this would be on behalf of YAC or not. It was decided that Jake would answer informative questions and talk about his personal experiences and beliefs.

Community Center - The idea of a teen lounge/community center was brought up again and YAC agreed to discuss the possibility of it again at the next meeting.

Other Business: Annamika asked if there was any other business to cover. None.

Adjournment: President Annamika adjourned the meeting at 5:00 PM