

Lakewood Youth Council Meeting Agenda
Thursday March 26, 2026 6:00pm
Auditorium at Lakewood City Hall

Members in Attendance: Archer Brandon, Danica Herberger, Sean Miller, Era Lulo, Porter Gilliland, Mel Diemert, Landon Vincel, Gian Frederick, Maria Zajac, Marin Petti

Members Absent: Cora Barcelona, Ceci Whiteamire, Caden Sandoval, Alessio Matera, Brad Krischbaum

Meeting called to order by Mel Diemert at 6:27pm

Landon Vincel moved to approve the February minutes and Era Lulo seconded. Minutes approved

Mel Diemert asked for committee updates. From the Environmental Committee, Danica Herberger said she reached out to the Tree Advisory Board. They have not responded to her yet.

Mel Diemert asked for updates from the Mental Health Committee. Era Lulo said she finished her Youth Band Interest Survey. She read it to the Council for approval. Sean Miller said she really liked the survey, and suggested the removal of the word “actually” in the survey description. Marin Petti asked a question about Lakewood residence. Landon Vincel asked where the survey was going to be distributed. Era said she would ask Mr. Wayner, Lakewood’s Public Information Officer, to make a post about it. Mel Diemert said word of mouth would be a good strategy and that she personally could talk to classmates in bands. Mrs. Chodzin asked to review the questions and restated that Youth Council cannot host events and the purpose is to collect information about what youth bands want and share that with relevant parties. She suggested rewording/eliminating some questions to reflect that. Cindy Strebigh highlighted the importance of the data collected to report to relevant parties. Some members asked for clarification about who the survey is directed to—just youth band members or more generally Lakewood youth. Lulo clarified that the survey is also about what Lakewood youth would like to see, not just what band members would like. Era said she make changes to the survey based on council members feedback and send it to Youth Council members.

Maria Zajac had no updates from Public Outreach Committee.

Sean Miller proposed an Advocacy Committee as a standing committee. The goal of the committee would be to “engage other Lakewood youth in local government and politics.” Voting and local policies would be topics of this committee. Miller said she thinks advocacy is a central goal of the Lakewood Youth Council. Mel Diemert asked for discussion. Maria Zajac motioned to approve it. Landon Vincel seconded. Era Lulo asked what is different about this proposal from

the previous proposal that failed. Miller said she thinks the standing committee proposal “got lost” within other ideas she has for Youth Council. Also, Miller said there was confusion about the difference between the Advocacy Committee and the Public Outreach Committee. Lulo also asked what something the committee could start on. Miller said a voter education initiative as an idea. There was some discussion about the difference between the Public Outreach and Advocacy committees are. Miller said Advocacy committee would be focused on more political things. Mel Diemert said the Public Outreach committee was initially formed to advertise the Lakewood Youth Council. There was some discussion about changing the name. This decision was put on hold to the future. Vote was passed unanimously by Roll Call.

New Business:

Mel Diemert announced that the Executive Committee will be reviewing attendance records and reaching out to members if there are any concerns.

Mrs. Chodzin brought up that officer elections will be held at the June meeting and suggested interested members begin thinking about that now. She strongly recommended that members who have intense commitments in other activities not run because it is puts a burden on other members.

Meeting adjourned by Mel Diemert at 7:18pm