



**Lakewood's Promise Advisory Board
May 1, 2025, Meeting Minutes**

MEETING PLACE/DATE:

**Thursday, May 1, 2025
In-Person and Zoom Virtual Meeting
Lake Steilacoom Room, City Hall Lobby
6000 Main St SW Lakewood, WA 98499
7:30 am – 8:30 am**

CALL TO ORDER:

Alice Fong called the meeting to order at 7:32am

ATTENDANCE:

Lakewood's Promise Advisory Board Members Present:

Alice Fong, Mary Dodsworth, Julie White and Kerri Pedrick

Lakewood's Promise Advisory Board Members Excused:

Ron Banner, Joyce Loveday and Megan Dempsey

Staff: Shannon Bennett provided staff support

Youth Council Liaison:

Alicia Stanford, Ava Qualls, Britany Robles, Elijah Sta Ana, Gabriel Flores, Jada Martin, Kasia King and Sophia Lana Castro

Council Liaison:

Mary Moss, Deputy Mayor

Guests:

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

To include a minor correction made to the meeting attendees list, Kerri motioned, and Julie seconded. Minutes unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

New Business

Spring Check-In

Alice opened the meeting by inviting members to share plans they are looking forward to this spring.

Youth Empowerment Summit Debrief

Shannon reported that approximately 130 students attended the Youth Empowerment Summit, where 25 vendors connected with youth to share information about their services. The event featured breakout sessions that were well-received by both students and facilitators.

Alice, who served as a breakout session facilitator, noted that students expressed challenges in connecting with peers post-pandemic. She asked what adults could do to better support youth. The discussion highlighted a continued need for fun, interactive activities and emphasized the importance of volunteerism in building communication and interpersonal skills.

Cooking and Crafts Event Update

Shannon announced that due to low early registration, the Cooking and Crafts event was rescheduled to May 9 to allow for expanded marketing. Four Youth Council members assisted with shopping for craft supplies, including materials for keychains, bracelets, and necklaces.

LPAB-Sponsored Summer Youth Event

Mary suggested hosting a summer youth event at the Fort Steilacoom Pavilion during the two-week break in the Farmer's Market schedule, potentially on a Tuesday evening. The group proposed promoting the event at Summerfest to reach a broad youth and parent audience. A tentative event date of July 24 was set.

Additional suggestions included:

Alice suggested offering a parallel activity for adults during the youth event.

Mary D. suggested incorporating an environmental component into the program.

Kerri recommended inviting the CISL Community Engagement Manager to join the event planning subgroup.

Alice announced that she and Shannon will meet with Clinton Taylor (Youth Money Matters) to discuss potential curriculum and invited the Youth Council liaisons to attend this meeting.

Julie offered to reach out to faculty involved in environmental education to support the event.

Shannon will confirm the Pavilion's availability.

Alice proposed incorporating Ron's expertise in physical activity into event programming.

Board Member Updates

Mary M. announced City Council is actively conducting interviews for the next City Manager and that all council positions are currently open.

Kerri shared that CISL is working to finalize summer programming, including the Leaders of Change initiative and projects in the Franklin Pierce School District.

Alice reminded members that May is Mental Health Awareness Month. A mental health counselor is offering support sessions, and Alice will distribute flyers with more information.

MEETING ADJOURN: Alice Fong adjourned the meeting at 8:30 am.

NEXT MEETING:

June 5, 2025.



Alice Fong, Chair



Shannon Bennett, Staff Person