Welcome and introductions Jay Dixon, Youth Development Council Vice Chair
Vice Chair Jay Dixon called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. and then introduced new Youth Council member Maria D. Hernandez, a senior at Willamette University. Karen Wilkes then conducted the roll call of Council members.

Approval of December 5, 2014, Youth Development Council Quarterly Meeting Summary
Vice Chair Dixon called for a motion and a second; the motion was unanimously approved with no abstentions, and the motion carried.

Director’s Report - Iris Bell Executive Director

Governor Transition:
Director Bell shared with the Council the background of newly-named Governor Kate Brown. Iris told the Council that nearly all the appointments former Governor Kitzhaber had appointed are still in place, including her own, and they would remain in place through the legislative session. Iris said that she had met with the Governor’s Chief of Staff Brian Shipley. He said Governor Brown was planning on staying on track with the former governor’s education policy objectives and initiatives.
Ways & Means Presentation:
Director Bell told the Council there is still a lot of discussion in the State Capitol regarding the education budget. She explained the Youth Development Council’s (YDC) budget remains at Current Service Level.

Legislative Updates - Brenda Brooks, Deputy Director and Anya Sekino, Juvenile Crime Prevention Specialist

Youth Workforce Day at the Capitol:
Brenda said that on February 23, 2015, about 80-100 youth turned out to speak with legislators, and to host a visit with new Governor Kate Brown; they also learned about the importance of youth workforce programs in their lives. The day was sponsored by the YDC, the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC), Community Colleges and Workforce Development (CCWD) and the Oregon Youth Conservation Core (OYCC). Brenda explained that the YDC’s Youth Workforce Committee has been doing a lot of alignment work with the Oregon Workforce Investment Board.

Senate Bill 586:
That same day, the Senate Workforce Committee heard testimony from the Youth Development Division’s Brenda Brooks on Senate Bill 586, which would broaden the age range of youth overseen by programs and services of the Youth Development Council from age 20 to 24. Currently the Council’s age range for youth is ages 6 to 20. This bill is sponsored by the Senate Workforce Committee. Senator Dembrow, Chair of the Workforce Committee and Chair of the Youth Committee of the Oregon Workforce Investment Board has taken great interest in helping to align the YDC age range with other state agencies and the national range for Opportunity Youth. It passed unanimously in committee and is now on to Joint Ways and Means.

Senate Bill 902:
This bill brings about cooperation of coordinated care organizations with providers of services to children in developing plans. The bill brings together programs developed by the Early Learning Council, Early Learning Hubs, the Youth Development Council and the school health providers in the region to coordinate the effective and efficient delivery of health care to children and adolescents in the community. This bill does not have any fiscal impact on our Council. Iris wanted the Council to see the alignment that is starting to happen with the work the Council is doing.

Senate Bill 686:
This bill allows for youth enrolled in alternative education programs to be considered out-of-school youth for purposes of distributing resources for Oregon’s Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014. This bill was at the Speaker’s Desk waiting for referral to committee.

House Bill 2239:
This bill would create an income tax credit for hiring at-risk or disadvantaged youth or youth with intellectual or developmental disabilities. It applies to tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2015, and before January 1, 2021. No fiscal impact has yet been determined.
House Bill 2904:
This bill expands circumstances under which courts may order youth held or placed in detention. It changes the factors the court must consider when determining whether the release of youth in detention is appropriate. Anya said the YDC’s concern is that it would impact minority youth and cause unnecessary detention. Anya said the YDD’s recommendation was to have a racial impact statement completed.

House Bill 2905:
This requires a court to specify the date in its dispositional order for youth offenders, before the youth offenders are to be released from legal custody of Oregon Youth Authority or Department of Human Services. Anya said the bill does not have a direct effect on the Youth Development Council.

House Bill 2906:
This bill modifies the definition of “scientifically based research” with respect to evidence-based programs. Anya said the division’s suggestion is to remove the Youth Development Council programs from the list of agencies outlined in the statute, since the definition cannot be applied to YDC programs. These programs, she said, are mainly operated by community based operations.

House Bill 2907:
This establishes the definition of recidivism for purposes of tracking and compiling data regarding recidivism of youth and youth offenders. Anya explained the bill could have an effect on the juvenile crime prevention services the Council offers. Anya said the Council tracks recidivism of youth in YDC programs as a measure of success or failure. Currently, she said, the Council is looking at a 12 month range to see if the youth in YDC programs have not committed a second or third crime. With completion of the program, the YDC considers that a success. If that is increased to 36 months, it could have an impact.

Senate Bill 618:
This directs the Department of Human Services to identify and enter into agreements with nonprofit organizations to assist runaway and homeless youth who are ages 0-17 to obtain identification cards from the Department of Transportation. The Youth Development Division is mentioned as one of several divisions that would help develop a comprehensive and coordinated approach for services and support for runaway and homeless youth and their families.

House Bill 2232:
This bill directs the Department of Human Services to appoint an advisory committee to advise the department on policies and procedures to coordinate statewide planning for delivery of services to runaway and homeless youth and their families. The YDC was mentioned as one of the coordinating agencies that may be on this committee.

Senate Bills 553 through 556
These bills are all structured around suspension or expulsion from schools. Anya said she is tracking these bills, because if the education discipline bills pass, it would significantly improve the outcomes of youth the division is serving.
Committee/Task Force Updates:

Bylaws Task Force – Adoption of Task Force Recommendations – Meghan Moyer, Task Force Lead
The YDC went through each of the bylaws, making changes in every section. Faye Fagel then made the motion to have the bylaws adopted with changes identified in the meeting. Brenda Frank seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Juvenile Justice Committee – Adoption of Three Year Plan for Oregon - Chief John Teague, Juvenile Justice Lead
Chief Teague said the document suggested the Council should adopt the new Three Year Plan, but actually the document was a summary of the Juvenile Justice Committee meeting. No action was taken. The full Council will discuss the plan areas at its meeting in June.

YDC Committee Structure Review - Tim Sinatra, Task Force Member
Tim Sinatra had asked each Council member to review the YDC’s standing committees to get a better understanding of what each committee does. Tim took the Council through an exercise to help each member choose committees they would like to serve on because that is where they have the most passion and energy. Tim asked each member to pick a primary and secondary committee. Tim then gave homework to members, asking them to study each committee’s description, priority and focus, and to bring back their choice(s) to the next quarterly meeting in June. This will be discussed in detail at the morning work session on June 18.

Public Testimony:
No public testimony was given.

Next Meeting: Council Special Meeting, May 14, 2015 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Adjourned:
The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.