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MINUTES

Perry Youth Advisory Council

February 19, 2026

5:00 p.m.

**1. Call to Order**

Vice Chair Rylee Arbogast called the Perry Youth Advisory Council meeting to order on February 19, 2026, at 5:12 p.m.

**2. Roll**

**Elected Officials Present:** None

**Youth Advisory Council Members Present:** Chairperson Chloe Shelton, Vice Chair Rylee Arbogast, Lillian Floyd, Law Leonard, and Andrew Peske

**City Staff Present:** Autumn Cameron, Special Events Administrator, Amber Howell, Communications Specialist

**3. Guests and Speakers**

**3a. Welcome & Presentation – Special Events Administrator Autumn Cameron**

Special Events Administrator Autumn Cameron provided an overview of Special Events in the City of Perry, highlighting the planning, coordination, and execution required to host City events. She explained her role in managing the event calendar, coordinating with City departments and vendors, overseeing safety and logistics, and ensuring smooth event-day operations and cleanup.

Cameron also reviewed and discussed the importance of events in strengthening community connection, supporting economic impact, enhancing quality of life, and promoting civic engagement. Students were encouraged to think about the purpose and impact of events they might plan in the future.



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**3b. Q&A With PYAC Members**

During discussion, Peske shared that he would want attendees to feel the Perry pride reflected at City events, while Arbogast said she would want visitors to return to Perry outside of events and experience the same excitement. Arbogast suggested a community talent show as a way to better engage youth, and Peske noted that using teen-focused social platforms would improve event promotion among their demographic. Chairperson Shelton encouraged PYAC members to serve as ambassadors in their schools to help spread the word, which the whole Council supported. Peske also asked about the City's event awards, and Cameron explained that she prepares and submits event-specific packages to various organizations for consideration.

**4. Review of Minutes**

**4a. Council's Consideration: Minutes of the January 15, 2025, Perry Youth Advisory Council Meeting**

A motion to approve the January 15, 2025, minutes was made by Councilmember Peske and seconded by Councilmember Floyd. The motion carried unanimously.

**5. New Business**

**5a. Civic Challenge 5 Recap – Experience the Perry Bourbon Street Bash**

Youth Council members shared their observations and feedback after attending the Perry Bourbon Street Bash as part of Civic Challenge 5. Discussion included ideas for enhancing event promotion to better reach teens, as well as suggestions related to the event footprint layout. Members noted that attendees appeared excited and engaged throughout the event.

The Council also discussed ways they could become more involved in future events, including the idea of hosting a tent or designated area to sell inexpensive sodas or “dirty sodas” to



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better connect with a teen audience. Members suggested this could also serve as a potential fundraiser opportunity for the Youth Council.

**6. Council Member Items: Goal Group Updates**

**6a. Promotion Group**

The Promotion Group has filmed videos to fulfill the Promotion requirement.

**6b. Leadership Group**

The Leadership Group will continue coordinating with HALO to determine specific roles and responsibilities for interested PYAC members supporting the April 18, 2026, Dinner Party Gala at the Georgia Grown Building at the Fairgrounds.

**6c. Impact Group**

The Leadership Group presented a document detailing the proposed award program. PYAC members will review the document and submit it to Mrs. Howell for final review prior to presenting the award details to Mayor Walker on April 16. A vote will be taken at the April 16 meeting to approve and move forward with the proposed guidelines.

**7. Staff Items**

**7a.** PYAC members participated in a research study focused on a digital tool being developed to better engage PYAC members and teens in Perry with their local government.

**7b. Civic Challenge 6 – Connect with City of Perry Public Safety**

Mrs. Howell explained Civic Challenge 6, which focuses on connecting with City of Perry Public Safety staff in order to learn how public safety leaders help keep Perry safe. By reaching out to the Police Chief or Fire Chief, PYAC members will learn more about their



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operations, priorities, and how they serve the community, while building confidence communicating with City leadership.

**7c. Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on **March 26, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at Fire Station 2**, located at 150 Commodore Drive in Perry. Mrs. Howell noted that this meeting will differ from the typical roundtable discussion format and will instead be a fully hands-on learning experience led by the Perry Fire and Police Departments.

**8. Adjourn**

A motion to adjourn was made by Council Member Peske and seconded by Council Member Floyd. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.