



CITY OF SWEET HOME COMMUNITY HEALTH MINUTES

April 24, 2024, 4:00 PM
Sweet Home City Hall, 3225 Main Street
Sweet Home, OR 97386

Mission Statement

The City of Sweet Home will work to build an economically strong community with an efficient and effective local government that will provide infrastructure and essential services to the citizens we serve. As efficient stewards of the valuable assets available, we will be responsive to the community while planning and preparing for the future.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM.

Roll Call

PRESENT

Chair Kelsey Ann Wray
Vice Chair Bob Dalton
Committee Member Michael Grenz
Committee Member Dr. Larry Horton
Committee Member Dick Knowles

ABSENT

Committee Member Nick Tyler
Committee Member Shirley Schumacher

CITY COUNCIL

Councilor Lisa Gourley, Council Liaison

STAFF

Adam Leisinger, Communications Manager
Sean Morgan, Community Services Officer

GUESTS

Di Lacey, Assistant Vice President for WesternU Oregon
Mark Lewis, Santiam Physical Therapy & WesternU Oregon
Kristi Walker, Sweet Home School District
Jim Gourley, Former Councilor

Approval of Minutes

- a) 2024-01-24 Community Health Committee Meeting Minutes
- b) 2024-02-28 Community Health Committee Meeting Minutes

Committee Member Knowles moved to approve the minutes of the January 24 and February 28, 2024 Community Health Committee meetings. Committee Member Horton seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by those present.

New Business

- a) Western University

Di Lacey, Assistant Vice President for WesternU Oregon, stated that her organization had been involved in the Sweet Home community since 2018. She noted that WesternU performed a qualitative and

quantitative study to examine the data from Samaritan Health to investigate community health needs and formed focus groups to discuss what the community wanted in terms of community health resources. She stated that Sweet Home had unique relationships and programs with WesternU in terms of community outreach and engagement. She stated that WesternU had fulfilled all needs identified over the last five years including a health clinic, which resulted in another analysis in 2023 with additional projects identified.

Mark Lewis stated that he was working to enhance the connection between the WesternU physical therapy service program and medical school could partner to bring more services to the area.

Ms. Lacey stated that WesternU was unique for its community service requirements for graduation compared to other health science universities. She highlighted a pro bono physical therapy clinic available by appointment on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the physical therapy school.

Discussion ensued regarding community engagement and WesternU's work to enhance health science education in the Sweet Home area.

Committee Member Knowles suggested that the physical therapy school connect with the Sweet Home Senior Center to enhance senior programming.

Ms. Lacey asked that the Community Health Committee connect with WesternU to suggest areas where they could provide positive impact to Sweet Home.

Vice Chair Dalton noted challenges with compiling and distributing healthcare resource lists. Ms. Lacey replied that students could be tasked with identifying optimal distribution locations as a project. She added that there were unique challenges for rural communities versus urban communities and Sweet Home could potentially serve as a best practice model for rural community health support. She recommended hosting an event to pull together all potential partners to identify available resources and eliminate redundancies.

Chair Wray invited members of the audience to speak.

Kristi Walker expressed concern with apparent increased poverty and mental health needs.

No action was required for this item.

New Business

a) Health Fair Update

Vice Chair Dalton stated that the Health Fair would be hosted on August 17, 2024 and advertising would begin in June. He noted that there would likely be an eye care professional attending for the first time. He asked the committee to suggest additional resources that could provide new benefits to the event.

No action was required for this item.

Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:05 PM.

Chair

ATTEST:

City Manager, Ex Officio City Recorder