



Community Health Committee Meeting Minutes

October 22, 2025, 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 & Pledge of Allegiance

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

Roll Call

PRESENT

Vice Chair Bob Dalton
Committee Member Dr. Larry Horton
Committee Member Dick Knowles
Committee Member Wanda Jones

ABSENT

Chair Kelsey Ann Wray
Committee Member Michael Grenz
Committee Member Shirley Schumacher

STAFF

Cecily Hope Pretty, Deputy City Manager
Adam Leisinger, Special Projects Manager

GUESTS

Janessa Van Epps, Linn-Benton Community College
Amber Billington, Linn-Benton Community College

Approval of Minutes

- a) 2025-09-24 Community Health Committee Meeting Minutes

Committee Member Knowles moved to approve the minutes of the September 24, 2025 Community Health Committee meeting. Committee Member Horton seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYE: Dalton, Horton, Jones, Knowles

NAY: None

ABSENT: Wray, Grenz, Schumacher

Recognition of Visitors / Public Comment

- a) Linn-Benton Community College Students

Janessa Van Epps and Amber Billington stated that they were working on a project to locate community groups supporting public health. Discussion ensued regarding the role and activities of the Committee and the Community Health Fair.

Old Business

a) Communication Board Fundraising

Deputy City Manager Pretty stated that the City created a GoFundMe to collect funds for a communication board in Sankey Park. She asked the Committee Members to distribute advertising for the fundraiser. Vice Chair Dalton and Committee Member Jones stated that they had already begun engaging people about the opportunity.

No action was required for this item.

New Business

a) Outreach Discussion

Vice Chair Dalton stated that the Committee was exploring ways to improve outreach to the community including a presentation opportunity and he suggested beginning with a presentation from a subject matter expert to the Rotary Club.

Committee Member Jones stated that she contacted the Zero Suicide Coordinator for Samaritan Health and she expressed interest in giving a presentation. Vice Chair Dalton requested that Committee Member Jones work with her to coordinate a presentation to the Rotary Club.

Committee Member Horton stated that he spoke with the diabetic coordinator for Samaritan and she also indicated her willingness to present.

Vice Chair Dalton suggested that the Committee engage City Council more often about the Committee and the information available.

No action was required for this item.

b) Expectations of Committee Members

Vice Chair Dalton stated that he met with Chair Wray to discuss her potential concerns or questions about how the Committee was operating. He noted that she requested additional feedback from the Committee Members during meetings.

No action was required for this item.

c) City Leadership Meetings

Vice Chair Dalton stated that he met with City Manager Jason Ogden, Deputy City Manager Pretty, and Mayor Susan Coleman to discuss their thoughts on the Committee and the best way for the Committee to bring value to the City. He stated that he intended to meet with the other members of City Council to continue the conversation. He encouraged the Committee to engage with the City Council.

No action was required for this item.

d) Community Food Resources

Deputy City Manager Pretty expressed concern with upcoming changes to food-related benefits at the federal level and requested that the Committee pass along any food resources they knew of so the City could share them with the public. Discussion ensued regarding cuts to food resources and areas in town to donate such as the library's Free Little Pantry, SHEMA, the Gleaners, and local churches.

No action was required for this item.

Committee Business for the Good of the Order

Informed & Ready Emergency Preparedness Training

Deputy City Manager Pretty provided information regarding an upcoming training for emergency preparedness offered through the Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments.

Committee Member Jones stated that Samaritan Health Services was planning to enter into an affiliation with MultiCare and that the partnership would potentially provide a significant investment into the Samaritan Health system and bring additional services to the area.

Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:52 PM.

ATTEST:

Chair

City Manager – Ex Officio City Recorder

DRAFT