



Community Health Committee Meeting Minutes

January 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 4:03 PM.

Roll Call

PRESENT

Chair Kelsey Ann Wray
Committee Member Michael Grenz
Committee Member Dr. Larry Horton
Committee Member Dick Knowles
Committee Member Shirley Schumacher

ABSENT

Vice Chair Bob Dalton
Committee Member Wanda Jones

COUNCIL

Mayor Susan Coleman, Council Liaison

STAFF

Cecily Hope Pretty, Assistant City Manager Pro Tem
Adam Leisinger, Special Projects Manager

Approval of Minutes

- a) 2024-12-04 Community Health Committee Meeting Minutes

Committee Member Horton moved to approve the minutes of the December 4, 2024 Community Health Committee meeting. Committee Member Knowles seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYE: Wray, Grenz, Horton, Knowles, Schumacher

ABSENT: Dalton, Jones

Recognition of Visitors / Public Comment

There was no public comment to be heard.

Old Business

- a) Community Resource List Updates

Chair Wray stated that the list was mostly completed and would need to be presented to City Council. Assistant City Manager Pro Tem Pretty stated she would work with Chair Wray to schedule a presentation to the City Council before April 1, 2025.

No action was required for this item.

New Business

a) Committee Goals

Committee Member Knowles reviewed highlights from a presentation by Western University regarding potential community health goals for Sweet Home. \ He suggested the creation of community education forums. He asked that the Committee make a connection with Samaritan Health to form a partnership and have access to another gathering space. He recommended working with mobile health providers to schedule community visits and invite the community. He asked that Sweet Home Health Fair participants be invited to share their work with the Committee in a public forum.

Chair Wray requested that this item be carried over to the next agenda for continued discussion. She expressed support for a community education forum as a future goal.

No action was required for this item.

b) Warming Shelters

Assistant City Manager Pro Tem Pretty stated that City Hall was available as a warming shelter during normal business and the Police Department was available 24/7 when temperatures were below freezing.

Committee Member Horton stated that FAC did not have heaters in their huts so sleeping conditions were uncomfortable in low temperatures. He stated that there was a warm community room on site for residents. He noted concerns with frostbite for the unhoused. He expressed the need for additional sites in Sweet Home such as churches or the community center.

Committee Member Schumacher noted concerns with increasing energy costs and stated visitors at the Senior Center stated they sometimes had to choose between groceries or paying their bills.

Mayor Coleman asked how new warming sites would be communicated to the public. Assistant City Manager Pro Tem Pretty stated that if organizations notified the City that they would serve as a warming shelter, she could share it with organizations that contact the City annually to confirm locations.

Chair Wray suggested contacting local churches directly to ask what services they were willing to provide.

Mayor Coleman stated she would distribute a letter to all the churches if the Committee provided one.

No action was required for this item.

c) Community Needs Lists

Chair Wray stated that she would draft a letter to churches to ask about opportunities for warming shelters as well as meeting other community needs.

Committee Member Horton stated that FAC maintained a list of needs. Chair Wray stated she could include it in her letter to the churches. He noted that Sweet Home was a historically generous community if they knew what the needs were.

Chair Wray stated that she had reviewed the City Code and asked if the City Council would refer items to the Committee for review. Assistant City Manager Pro Tem Pretty replied that City Council would have a work session regarding City Committees and she would remind them that referring items to the Committee level was an option.

No action was required for this item.

Committee Business for the Good of the Order

Assistant City Manager Pro Tem Pretty recommended canceling the February meeting to allow the Mayor the opportunity to reassign Committee liaisons and host the work session.

There was consensus to hold the February meeting as scheduled.

Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:46 PM.

Chair

ATTEST:

City Manager Pro Tem – Ex Officio City Recorder

DRAFT