Faith-Based Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes of September 1, 2026

Present were committee members James Lafolette, Chaplain Terry Cummings, and Joe Sharon. Dan Mahon and Rafael Vargas were absent. Records Retention Clerk Dawne Shaw was in attendance. Council Representatives Allen Hayward and Jackie Linton were absent. No Youth Advisors attended the meeting. Chaplain Terry Cummings opened the meeting in prayer at 4:05pm.

Minutes:
Terry moved and Joe seconded to approve the August 4, 2026, minutes. Motion carried unanimously with all voting in favor.

Public Comment: None

9/11 – 25th Anniversary: Terry Cummings explained the celebration for the 25th anniversary of 9/11, noting it takes place on Festival Street at 5:15pm. He discussed the event specifics and noted there will also be a remembrance ceremony at the following football game. Terry stated he will be retiring as Chaplain October 1st but noted he will stay to help until the new chaplain is in place. He noted there is outreach to local churches taking place for chaplain service. Terry stated he is resigning from the Faith Based Advisory Committee (FBAC) as of today.

Pet Blessing: James stated the new Pastor at United Methodist, Ryan Remington, is planning a community-wide pet blessing event on October 3rd from 2pm-5pm in the parking lot across the street from the church.

Stepping Stones Alliance (SSA) Updates: SSA Executive Director Jesalyn Cole delivered an update on Stepping Stones to include:

- Propane grill is installed & training for usage is taking place
- The kitchen stove has been installed
- Sleep Center is averaging 20 guests a night

Gala tickets are on sale now. Jesalyn distributed a handout for the Gala and noted there will be dinner, an auction and fundraising. Last year $42,000 was raised.

Jesalyn stated there has been a videographer that has been taking videos for the website to highlight volunteering opportunities and success stories. She noted a grant they were originally denied, has been recently awarded and they have one year to use the money. She stated the funds will be used for continued education for staff, so they can assist people enrolling in Oregon Health.

School Adoption Updates:

School District Support – James stated that Dan is reaching out to the district, hopefully to have someone attend a FBAC meeting and explain the best way for the committee to help.

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School Supplies – James noted an outreach event that took place at Newport Park, which provided BBQ and school supplies, noting there was a good turnout.

Food Insecurity Updates:
James provided information about a Luncheon for stakeholders that provide free meals. The event will take place at noon on September 15, at Oasis Church and Stepping Stones is helping to sponsor the lunch.

James stated after the Round Up, he and Dan will reach out to EOTEC regarding their food trailers to see about using them for mobile food distribution.

Next Meeting:
The next meeting is scheduled for October 13, 2026, at 4pm at City Hall, in the small conference room.

There was no further business, and Joe closed the meeting in prayer at 4:39pm.