



# FAITH-BASED ADVISORY COMMITTEE

City Hall 2nd Floor Large Conference Room- 180 NE 2nd St

*Where Life is Sweet*

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September 05, 2023 at 4:00 PM

## AGENDA

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**1. WELCOME / INVOCATION**

**2. MINUTES**

**A.** Minutes of the April and June Meetings. There were no meetings in May, July, & August.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**4. NEW BUSINESS**

**A.** National Faith and First Responders Event- October 7th

**B.** Hispanic Advisory Committee Contact

**C.** Potential New Member Review

**5. CHECK-INS / UPDATES / REPORTS**

**A.** School Adoption Updates

**B.** Projects/Initiatives for the Committee

**6. OTHER**

**7. NEXT MEETING**

**A.** Tuesday, November 7th at 4:00PM in City Hall's 2nd Floor Conference Room.

**8. BENEDICTION**

**\*\* AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT NOTICE\*\***

Please contact Hermiston City Hall, 180 NE 2nd Street, Hermiston, OR 97838 (Phone No. 541-567-5521) at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting time if you need an

accommodation. TTY and TDD users please call Oregon Telecommunications Relay Service at 1-800-735-2900 or 711.

Present were James Lafolette and Dean Hackett. Members Terry Cummings was absent, and Chris Hankel was excused. Also present were Council representatives Rod Hardin and Jackie Linton, as well as City Recorder Lilly Alarcon-Strong. The meeting was opened in prayer by James at 4:14pm.

### **Minutes**

The April meeting minutes were unable to be approved as there was no quorum. No meeting was held in May.

### **Mayor Drotzmann and City Manager Smith Meeting Report**

James and Dean stated they had a very productive meeting with the Mayor and City Manager and discussed very thoughtful suggestions that the Committee could consider to work/focus on, to include:

- How the I Love My City initiative is one of the finest events of the City
- Someone from FBAC attend the Hispanic Advisory Committee meetings to support this demographic
- What we can do to support young couples
- Spanish Library “Book Shower”- Purchase books to expand the Spanish book collection
- How to help Parents of youth going through CAB (Community Accountability Board)/It’s Just Dinner Programs
- Marriage and parent Trainings
  - It was suggested that the Committee reach out to Made to Thrive and True Care as both organizations have offered these types of services in the past
- PATH (Practical Assistance Through Transitional Housing) Project AKA Stepping Stones Alliance - asking congregations to help gather volunteers and provide worship services once their facility has been completed

The group briefly discussed these items and stated they would re-present this information when a quorum is present.

### **I Love My City Event Updates**

James and Dean stated over 620 volunteers served the community on this day saving the City about \$35,000, and over 920 people attended the following days Sunday Service at EOTEC. These events continue to grow and allow the community to prosper through giving.

### **Other**

There was discussion regarding:

- Free lunch programs provided for the homeless by area churches and what is offered through Rose Ministries. The Committee stated they would discuss this at the next meeting when more members were present.
- James invited the group to attend the Live Butterfly Release Community Memorial Event on Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup> at 12:30pm at Victory Square Park.
- Jackie invited the group to the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Juneteenth Event at McKenzie Park Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> at 4pm. There will be music, dancing, free food, and more.

### **Next Meeting**

Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm in the Large Board Room on the 2nd Floor of City Hall.

### **Adjournment**

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned in prayer by Rod at 4:54pm.

Present were James Lafolette, Dean Hackett, Terry Cummings, and Chris Hankel. Also present were Council representatives Rod Hardin and Jackie Linton, as well as City Recorder Lilly Alarcon-Strong. The meeting was opened in prayer by Rod at 4:00pm.

### **Minutes**

Terry moved and Dean seconded to approve the minutes of the December meeting. Motion carried unanimously. There were no meetings in January, February, and March.

### **New Business**

The Committee and people in the audience spoke regarding:

- I Love My City Information & Updates (planned for May 20 & 21 at EOTEC)
- Eastern Oregon First-Responders Chaplain's Association 501c3 Information
- Family Promise and Made to Thrive
- School Adoption Program
- Community Accountability Board (CAB) and It's Just Dinner

Committee members spoke regarding the continuing purpose of the Committee. Many of the items above were initiated by this Committee and have been passed on to other organizations and groups who have continued to grow most of these programs. The Committee is at a standstill and needs to know what the function of the group is and should be, and if there is value in continuing the Committee.

After some discussion, the committee agreed there is still value in meeting in this capacity to support the City in Faith-Based efforts. The Committee and members of the audience discussed the Committee focusing on current and potential future crisis situations, such as:

- Helping children by providing Foster Care
- Emergency Planning, specifically discussing food shortage, as food shortage has not been talk about in other Umatilla County Emergency Management Planning meetings that members of this group have attended.

The Committee decided James and Dean will meet with City Manager Smith and Mayor Drotzmann before their next meeting and ask them what they would like the Committee to focus on or work towards.

### **Other**

There was discussion regarding:

- Art of Neighboring book regarding loving thy neighbor as Jesus said
- Adopt a Street Program from the Hermiston Chamber of Commerce
- National Law Enforcement Week May 14-20
- National Faith Blue & Red event on October 7<sup>th</sup>. This is a change from last year's National Faith and Blue event
  - There was discussion regarding how to get more churches involved in this event

### **Next Meeting**

Tuesday, June 6 at 4:00pm in the Large Board Room on the 2nd Floor of City Hall.

### **Adjournment**

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned in prayer by Terry at 5:05pm.