



**General Meeting Minutes**  
**September 7, 2023**  
**Oregon City First Baptist Church, 819 John Adams St.**

**Attendees:** Jesse Buss, Curt & Erika Reesor, Wendy Marshall, Denyse McGriff, Aaron Brounstein, Phil Rotrock, Amy Wilson, Lissa Adams, Carlee Brounstein, Maribeth Gehring, Dale Gehring, Justin Couch, John Witham, Raymond Rendleman, Tammy Jo Wilson, Damon Mabee, Sgt. Justin Young, Sgt. Jared Turpin, Simon Mines, Sara Falvey, Ben Figgins, Stephanie Hollingshead, Willemijn Ilcisin

**1. Police/Fire liaison updates**

**Sgt. Jared Turpin-and Sgt. Justin Young – Oregon City Police Department**

Homicide in McLoughlin Neighborhood at 221 Jefferson St that started out as a missing person report, suspect was apprehended, charged and is in custody. Since this is ongoing, not much can be discussed.

Large uptick in suicide attempts and overdose deaths within the neighborhood. A new batch of fentanyl-laced opioids with an added ingredient “tranc” is on the street which is resistant to Narcan. Police are asking the public to reach out if they have any concerns and share this information with neighbors, children, family since these drugs are deadly. There were 5 overdoses within 36 hours, 2 of those were deadly in August. In Clackamas County, there are normally 1.9 overdoses in a week, since July, there have been an average of 16 per week. 15 of the 16 were housed people. This is probably half of the actual overdoses since many are unreported.

A call out for anyone who would want to be a police officer serving the community of Oregon City. The department of 47 people is short, 9 members. There are four new recruits coming into the department, but the time from hiring to being on patrol can take 12-15 months. There is one officer in the academy now, two more are starting in September and one more after that. Until the department is fully staffed, most officers must work on patrol and divisions like traffic enforcement, school policing, college policing and homeless liaison take a back seat.

Traffic enforcement stings for the last 6 weeks have targeted areas in the neighborhoods focusing on cell phone use, speeding, traffic control devices at 5<sup>th</sup> and Washington, 5<sup>th</sup> and Center, Washington and 10<sup>th</sup> and Washington and 12<sup>th</sup>. More will be occurring on the entire length of 15<sup>th</sup>, Taylor and 7-12<sup>th</sup>. Most of these are initiated

by citizen request. Citizens are encouraged to send their requests through the city app or by reaching out to the OCPD.

**2. Presentation: Oregon City Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)- Ben Simmon, chair**

Transportation Advisory Committee (meets monthly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 6pm at 625 Center Street/City Hall) and all are welcome to attend. TAC is an advisory committee tasked with providing advice and recommendations to the City Commission, Urban Renewal Agency and Planning Commission on transportation related matters. They have helped with setting out temporary speed bumps in areas to see if the speed bumps would have the intended effect before constructing permanent bumps.

There was a formal request for a flashing pedestrian crosswalk on 9<sup>th</sup> and Washington by Carlee Brounstein. She was encouraged to attend the next TAC meeting on September 19<sup>th</sup> and to contact Audrey Meeker to get on the agenda.

Ben Simmons talked about the fact that the Oregon Department of Transportation is allowing jurisdictions to set their own speed control. However, the process is lengthy and he is not sure the city staff has the bandwidth to do this. He is aware that Clackamas County is applying, and Oregon City may be able to utilize the county initiative to reduce speeds to further our interests to reduce speeds. He also brought up the proposal of designating Oregon City as a “20 is Plenty” city – where current speeds of 25 mph will be reduced to 20 mph in an effort to reduce traffic deaths.

**3. Presentation: Oregon City Arts Commission- Tammy Jo Wilson, Chair**

The Arts Commission has been in place for two years. The Commission wants to promote arts (all kinds) and culture to improve the quality of life in Oregon City. They are making small grants available to small community-based organizations with simplified grant application process. Larger grants are also available with more detailed application. Examples of projects funded: Part of the 2023 Juneteenth celebration, Porchfest, Arts Festival at Pioneer Center. Murals have also been funded and more are coming.

The replacement sculpture at Center and 7<sup>th</sup> Streets will be funded by a Metro Enhancement Grant and insurance money. The Arts Commission has just approved of the adorning of the new “Loo” (bathroom) at the base of the elevator. They meet on the third Thursday of every month, 7pm, at the Oregon City Hall at 625 Center Street.

**4. Call for Volunteers for Ice Cream Social and 7<sup>th</sup> St. Cleanup- Denyse McGriff**

Help clean up 7<sup>th</sup> Street Sept 9 from 9am-12pm and then come to the Ice cream Social to mingle with neighbors from 2-4:30 at Library Park. MNA needs volunteers for both activities. A sign-up sheet was circulated.

**5. Approval of July 2023 Minutes: postponed until next General Meeting**

**6. Treasurer’s Report: Curt Reesor**

Savings: \$3714.73 + 0.16 dividend=\$3714.89

Checking: \$3401.04 + \$217.40 (Concert in the Park- Snow Cone Sales #6)+ \$105.75  
(Concerts in the Park Snow Cone Sales #7 ) = \$3724.19

Denyse McGriff moved to accept the Treasurer's report, Damon Mabee 2<sup>nd</sup>, Approved unanimously.

7. **Land Use-** Wendy Marshall

a. 1404 Jackson St.: Jane Littlefield & Dan Beyer

Need to replace the garage that is falling down. Currently, the garage is adjacent to the sidewalk. Jane and Dan are requesting two variances. One to reduce the 20-foot setback to a 14-foot setback. The second is to reduce the 5-foot setback from the alley to 0 feet. More information can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/1404Jackson>.

b. Cayuse 5 Memorial on the promenade: August 22 HRB meeting, continued to Sept. 26 meeting

c. 1315 JQ Adams cable deck railing: August 22 HRB meeting, continued to Sep 26.

d. 411 Madison: proposing to cover existing deck.

8. **CIC Report:** Willemijn Ilcisin – postponed till next meeting

9. **Commissioners Corner –Denyse McGriff**

Bathroom at base of the elevator and the art work on it was approved. It will only be open certain hours.

OCPD Captain Shaun Davis has been promoted to Police Chief.

The Youth Advisory Commission has plans to create a Mental Health Fair for students by students focusing on all aspects of mental health: mental well-being, drug use, nutrition etc. The date is October 7, 2023 from 2 pm to 5 pm at the Pioneer Community Center. Many city committees need members – Denyse encouraged people to participate and get involved in the community.

DOCA (Downtown Oregon City Association) has new executive director: Juliana Allen.

10. **MNA sub-committee update- Jesse Buss MNA**

A sub-committee is working on policies and procedures (will take a few more months) and the outcome will be brought up to the general membership at a later date.

11. **Adjourned** at 9:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Willemijn Ilcisin, acting Secretary

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