



---

---

## CITY OF OREGON CITY CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

---

---

City Hall Mt. Hood Room, 625 Center St., Oregon City  
Monday, August 4, 2025 at 7:00 PM

---

---

### 1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

**PRESENT:**

*Dennis Anderson, Linda Baysinger, Donna Renee Larsen, Betty Mumm, Duane Hanson, Christopher Nolte, Mark Beatty, Sara Peterson, Josh Kayser, Denise Beasley, Tim Powell, Bob LaSalle, and Commissioner Scott Wilson.*

**STAFF:** *Hannah Schmidt, and Jarrod Lyman.*

**EXCUSED:** *Deby Butzer and Commissioner Adam Marl*

**ABSENT:** *None.*

### 2. PRESENTATIONS

- a. Cecily Rose, Social Service and Community Center Manager, presented the annual report for the Pioneer Community Center. The Pioneer Community Center is part of the Parks and Recreation Department and now also manages city rentals and events. Established in 1979, the center enhances quality of life through recreational activities, nutritional programs, and social services, serving adults in Oregon City, West Linn, and Clackamas County. Last fiscal year, they documented 45,977 visits and held over 2,724 programs, serving many of the community's most vulnerable with essential services. The center provided 47,753 meals, 6,920 transport units, and numerous connections to essential services. They offer recreational programs like Tai Chi and Zumba, with additional funding coming from local and federal sources. They saved \$314,069 with volunteer help and had a rental revenue of \$39,239. The Rental and Events Coordinator not only executed the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and Concert in the Parks events this summer but is also planning the inaugural OC Fall Fest scheduled for October 4. The center's financial stewardship ended the fiscal year with a 24.59% budget balance, supported by \$65,000 in donations and \$209,000 in grants.
  
- b. Juliana Allen, Executive Director of the Downtown Oregon City Association (DOCA), outlined downtown initiatives. DOCA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit focused on community and commerce, operating under four pillars: design, economic vitality, promotions, and organization. Allen identified courthouse, parking, and homelessness as key topics downtown. Since the courthouse moved in May

2025, foot traffic has surprisingly increased, with some businesses benefiting from better parking. She highlighted the successful First City Celebration, which featured diverse performances and drew large crowds. DOCA is working on an upright project to improve safety by illuminating trees and an Alleyway Illuminations project costing approximately \$78,000. The upright project received a \$50,000 grant, needing an additional \$28,000-\$29,000. Tim Powell raised concerns about the modern look of the alley art compromising the historic district, while Denise Beasley asked about the uprights' effects on bird migration; Allen emphasized the project's focus on safety.

### **3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

#### **a. Enhancement Grant Applicants - Request for CIC Support**

##### **Clackamas County Arts Alliance**

Ariella-Sophie Sternberg and Dianne Alves from the Clackamas County Arts Alliance requested support in applying for \$10,000 for the Community Enhancement grant. Their workshops, aimed at helping talented but under-resourced artists, are mainly hosted at the Oregon City Library and Clackamas Community College. These sessions focus on areas like social media and copyright to support business development. Participants' addresses are tracked to ensure the involvement of Oregon City residents. Dianne noted that workshops stimulate local economy by bringing visitors to the city and assisting artists in increasing their incomes. An example mentioned a senior photographer who expanded her online sales after attending.

##### **Oregon City Together**

Ann Haynes, Coalition Director for Oregon City Together, requested support for a \$23,259 grant for youth-focused substance use prevention. Formed in 2012, the organization partnered with local schools and police for last year's effective mental health and drug education campaigns, achieving a 5% rise in eleventh graders' reported excellent mental health and a 16.6% increase in parental discussions on fentanyl dangers. The new grant centers on involving students in creating similar campaigns. Expanding to mental health due to risk factor links, they also run a fifth-grade Halloween poster contest and other high school initiatives.

##### **Willamette Falls Symphony Orchestra**

Mark Perlman, Music Director of Willamette Falls Symphony, and Carol Dumond requested \$37,000 in grant support. They have operated in Oregon City since 1981, currently at United Methodist Church on South End Road. The volunteer orchestra features 50-60 musicians with a few paid string players. They hold five concerts annually and a youth concert competition every other year for ages 12-18. The Symphony performs in local schools, engaging nearly 1,000 elementary students in their latest tour. Post-pandemic fundraising challenges make grant

support crucial for expenses like paying musicians, rent, insurance, and music fees. Their next concert is October 26th at United Methodist Church, with additional participation in Porch Fest at the Highland Stillhouse pub.

#### **Hannah Grace Family and HGF Ascend Music**

Jason Hood requested support for a \$27,680 grant for the Hannah Grace Family's Ascend Music program. Serving children facing instability like foster care, domestic violence, and learning disabilities, this year-long program uses music, such as keyboard and guitar, to boost self-esteem and learning. First-year students receive instruments to keep after completing the school year. Now in its fifth year, some students have been involved for four years. Consistent mentorship from volunteers enhances children's confidence and fosters community connection for isolated families.

Following public comments, the CIC voted on each grant application:

Motion: To send a letter of support for the Clackamas County Arts Alliance grant application for \$10,000. Moved by Tim Powell, seconded by Denise Beasley. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion: To send a letter of support for Oregon City Together's grant application for \$23,259. Moved by Duane Hanson, seconded by Betty Mumm. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion: To send a letter of support for Willamette Falls Symphony Orchestra's grant application for \$37,000. Moved by Josh Kayser, seconded by Tim Powell. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion: To send a letter of support for Hannah Grace Family and HGF Ascend Music's grant application for \$27,680. Moved by Dennis Anderson, seconded by Betty Mumm. The motion passed unanimously.

The Chair agreed to sign letters of support on behalf of the CIC.

#### **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. Betty Mumm moved to approve the July 7, 2025, Citizen Involvement Committee Meeting Minutes. Dennis Anderson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **5. STAFF LIAISON UPDATES**

- a. Hannah Schmidt provided updates on the following items:

- Volunteer Recognition Awards: The event will be held on Saturday, October 4th from 3-5 pm at the Pioneer Community Center, following the first Oregon City Fall Fest (11am-3pm). The theme is fall festive, and there will be light snacks and beverages. Hannah encouraged members to RSVP and to nominate volunteers for the four award categories: Next Generation Award (under 18), Outstanding Committee Member Award, Volunteer Organization of the Year, and Distinguished Volunteer of the Year.
- CIC Member Terms: Hannah explained that all CIC members' terms will conclude on December 31, 2025. She requested that neighborhood associations vote on their CIC representatives at their next meetings and provide that information in their meeting minutes. For neighborhoods where bylaws specify that the chair and vice chair serve as CIC representatives, documentation of those appointments would be needed.
- Wireless Emergency Alert Test: Multnomah County will be conducting a wireless emergency alert test on August 14th at 2pm. Hannah advised that Oregon City residents might receive the alert due to their proximity to Multnomah County.
- Oregon City Ivy League: Hannah announced an Ivy pull event on Saturday, September 20th from 9am-12pm at Waterboard Park.

## **6. GENERAL BUSINESS**

- a. Hannah Schmidt presented the finalized budget allocations for each neighborhood association. The Chair expressed concern about the lack of budget growth to accommodate new neighborhood associations that might become active. Other members noted that the budget was increased by \$30,000 from the previous biennium, and any savings from bundled postcard mailings could be used to support new neighborhoods.

Tim Powell moved to approve the budget as presented in the Agenda Packet. Betty Mumm seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- b. Hannah Schmidt presented a plan for bundling postcard mailings to achieve cost savings. She reported that in July, the CIC had a total savings of \$1,001.33 from bundling postcards at the tier 3 rate. For bundling to work, neighborhood associations need to submit their postcard designs by set deadlines.

The committee discussed the timing of postcards relative to meeting dates and the practicality of bundling. Tim Powell expressed concern that his neighborhood (McLoughlin) might not receive postcards early enough before their meeting if bundled with others. After extensive discussion about various scheduling options

and the tradeoffs between cost savings and timing, the committee agreed on the following schedule.

First September bulk mailing:

McLoughlin, Hazel Grove, Gaffney Lane, Elyville: Submit postcard designs by August 20th, with delivery to residents by August 29 at the latest.

Second September bulk mailing:

Canemah, Caulfield, Hazel Grove - Westling Farm: Submit postcard designs by September 5, with delivery to residents by September 16 at the latest.

October bulk mailing:

Elyville, McLoughlin, Park Place, Two Rivers: Submit postcard designs by October 6, with delivery to residents by October 14 at the latest.

Hannah noted that neighborhood associations that miss the bundling deadlines can still send out postcards, but without the cost savings. She also reminded the committee that their allocated budgets can be used for other advertising methods besides postcards.

Betty Mumm suggested forming a working group to explore alternative ways to advertise meetings, specifically exploring social media outreach. The members will report back on their findings at the next meeting.

- c. The committee discussed arrangements for National Night Out on August 5. Set-up starts at 3:30 p.m. and should be completed by 5:00 p.m. Josh Kayser will bring a tent, Hannah Schmidt will provide a table, and the Chair, Linda Baysinger will bring a tablecloth. McLoughlin Neighborhood Association will provide candy. Hannah Schmidt will bring 50 copies of the Neighborhood Association flyer with the map and another flyer for residents to sign up for text alerts.

## **7. ROUNDTABLE**

**Canemah NA:** Announced a cemetery preservation workshop on August 16 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the historic cemetery, where a preservationist will demonstrate proper techniques for cleaning headstones.

**Caulfield NA:** Working on fundraising since their door hanger experiment wasn't successful. Donna Renee Larsen noted that at their recent meeting, all attendees indicated they came because of the postcard rather than door hangers.

**Gaffney Lane NA:** Reported that Josh Wheeler from Public Works attended their meeting to discuss sidewalk issues related to tree damage.

**Hazel Grove/Westling Farm NA:** Will have a table at National Night Out and are amending bylaws, setting up committees, and converting donated real estate signs for neighborhood use.

**Hillendale/Tower Vista NA:** Have a steering committee meeting scheduled for August 5, 2025.

**McLoughlin NA:** Had an eventful meeting on July 16 with presentations on PGE's electric car pole charging program and sidewalk issues. They also heard from the Homeless Solutions Coalition of Clackamas County about their project breaking ground on September 8. Upcoming events include Porch Fest (August 9-11) with 95 bands/entertainers, a neighborhood yard sale the same weekend with 47 participants signed up, and selling snow cones at the Concerts in the Park. McLoughlin also held a successful event with the Model A, Model T, and LaSalle Cadillac Club, with about 35 people and 18 cars participating.

**Park Place NA:** Dealing with a proposed development by Icon Construction of 213-219 new residences. The neighborhood's main concern is the need for a connector road between Holcomb Boulevard and Redland Road to alleviate traffic congestion and improve emergency evacuation routes.

**South End NA:** Had their first meeting in June with about 20 attendees. Planning to finalize bylaws and elect officers, with the next meeting in September.

Commissioner Scot Wilson provided updates on city business, including a new ordinance regarding burning, redesignation of the enterprise zone, and ongoing discussions about sidewalk issues.

## **8. ADJOURNMENT**

The Chair, Linda Baysinger, announced that the September meeting would be canceled due to Labor Day weekend, with the next meeting scheduled for October 6. Linda Baysinger adjourned the meeting at 9:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hannah Schmidt, Community Engagement Specialist  
Date Approved: 10/06/2025