

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COEUR D' ALENE, IDAHO,
HELD AT THE LIBRARY COMMUNITY ROOM

December 3, 2024

The Mayor and Council of the City of Coeur d'Alene met in a regular session of said Council at the Coeur d'Alene City Library Community Room on December 3, 2024, at 6:00 p.m., there being present the following members:

Woody McEvers, Mayor

Dan English)	Members of Council Present
Christie Wood)	
Dan Gookin)	
Kiki Miller)	
Kenny Gabriel)	
Amy Evans)	Member of Council Absent

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor McEvers called the meeting to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Members of the Girl Scout Troop 2121 led the pledge of allegiance.

PRESENTATIONS:

International Day of the Girl: Councilmember Miller read the Proclamation noting that October 11, 2024 was declared as International Day of the Girl and was accepted by Brian Newberry, Chief Executive Officer of the Girl Scouts of Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho. Mr. Berry stated that the International Day of the Girl was celebrated in October, and they wanted to attend the Council meeting to recognize the Girl Scouts and remind them that their voice matters. He added that this year, there are about 1,000 Girl Scouts in Idaho. The girls helped donate 39,000 boxes of cookies to the US servicemen including those overseas. Mr. Newberry mentioned that Councilmember Miller along with four women legislators attended their democracy meeting last month. Councilmember Miller responded that the democracy meeting went great, and she is proud that she got to be involved.

Downtown Association Farmer's Market Summary: Municipal Services Director Renata McLeod shared the Downtown Association (DTA) summary report on the pilot project allowing open container at the Farmer's Market every Wednesday which was held from September 4 – 25, 2024 along 5th Street between Front Avenue to Lakeside Avenues, with vehicular traffic still allowed on Sherman Avenue. The report noted the large amount of set up time, the hiring of additional security and the need for customers to finish alcoholic beverages before crossing Sherman Avenue as downsides to the program. However, no law enforcement incidents occurred as a positive point. The summary report stated that they were able to have four events. While containing the area is feasible, DTA will not pursue the open container project at the Farmer's

Market next year due to the added expenses and large amount of set-up time needed. Ms. McLeod stated that the DTA is weighing in other possible options for other events. She added that the Police Department wanted to make sure that for any future event, they will still require fencing in order to contain the alcohol in that area. Councilmember Miller commented that she appreciates the depth and details of the report.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Russ McLain, Kootenai County, asked the Council to look into fire codes for new building construction as there might be some redundancies, and it comes with huge costs.

Erin Barnard, Coeur d'Alene, applauds the Council for the Proclamation declaring October 11 as International Day of the Girl, which recognizes the hardships that girls must endure and overcome. She asked Council to continue to recognize the specialness of traditional family values which strengthen society and benefits the children. She looks forward to seeing a proclamation about traditional family values.

Nancy Phillips, Coeur d'Alene, talked about the home delivered meals program, previously known as the Meals on Wheels program, and shared that they recently had their first Thanksgiving meal at the Community Center benefiting 142 people, of which majority were seniors in the community. She stated that they are currently serving 121 homebound seniors in Coeur d'Alene. An average of 2,500 meals are delivered to them each month. The area agency provides 27% of the funding while 73% would be coming from donations, fundraisers, and grants such as the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). Ms. Phillips mentioned that they need to come up with \$168,000 with donations and grants. They are holding a blanket drive for the holiday season to provide blankets for homebound seniors along with a goodie bag from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. She thanked the Council for its continuing support and invited them to attend the dinner for their volunteers on December 11 from 5:00 p.m.– 7:00 p.m.

Suzanne Knutson, Coeur d'Alene, noted that today, December 3, is International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD) which is observed annually since 1992. The theme for this year is amplifying the leadership of persons with disabilities for an inclusive and sustainable future. Ms. Knutson stressed the importance of celebrating the contributions of persons with disabilities and reflecting on the challenges they face in the community. She called for greater personal awareness and movement toward greater inclusion for people with disabilities through trainings from the ADA National Network, participation in web or podcasts, and attending the annual ADA symposium. Ms. Knutson asked the Council to include people with all types of disabilities and organizations that represent or serve them when projects for any type of city improvements are being considered.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Councilmember English stated that he will be attending his first Library Board meeting tomorrow, December 4, as the Council Liaison. He mentioned that he attended a legislative forum in the past week and discussed with Representative Joe Alfieri the city's process to fill up the Council seat vacancy.