

**SuicideAwarenessAndPreventionCouncil.Org**  
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**MINUTES FOR JANUARY 5, 2023 MEETING OF THE CURRY  
COUNTY SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION COUNCIL**

Meeting was Called to Order at 5:40 pm by Interim Meeting Facilitator, Janece Payne

Members attending:

Janece Payne  
DeAnne Varitek  
Siena Peterson  
Pastor Mike Lancaster  
Connie Hunter

Chair/Facilitator: Janece Payne

Secretary: Connie Hunter

BOC Liaison: Curry Commissioner Court Boice

Admin Assist: Founding Dir. Emeritus Gordon Clay

Guest: Loren Farmer

Agenda item 1: Janece Payne – Meeting was called to order at 5:40 PM

Agenda item 2: Roll call established a quorum after a slightly late arrival

Agenda item 3: Council Mandate read by Connie Hunter

The Curry County Suicide Awareness and Prevention Council shall develop and recommend to the agencies that serve within the county, and to the public, plans and tools to provide for and influence the awareness and prevention of suicide in Curry County. Duties include but are not limited to the study of preventing suicide, plans for the prevention of suicide, and informing agencies and the general public of resources and plans to bring awareness to suicides in the county.

MINUTES FOR JANUARY 5, 2023 MEETING OF THE  
CURRY COUNTY SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION COUNCIL  
PAGE 2

Agenda item 4: Approval of Agenda, Janece Payne  
Bylaws added under open discussion and addition of Land Acknowledgement.  
Connie Hunter moved to approve with the above changes  
Seconded by Pastor Mike Lancaster  
Passed: Nay - 0

Agenda item 5: Land Acknowledgement added and read by Janece Payne.

Agenda item 6: Approval of the Minutes.  
Pastor Mike Lancaster moved to approve.  
Seconded by DeAnne Varitek  
Passed: Nay - 0  
Minutes approved.

Agenda item 7: Public Comments, Janece Payne  
--Connie Hunter spoke about new VA rollout Jan. 17<sup>th</sup> – any veteran who is suicidal can go into any healthcare facility and ask for assistance.  
--Gordon Clay spoke regarding 988 roll out concerns and suggested giving out local crisis line phone number.

Clarifications re public meeting laws sought by Gordon Clay, Commissioner Liaison Court Boice acknowledged handoff was good not perfect but good. Suggested core value: Don't let perfection be the enemy of good.

Agenda item 8, Action Items:

A. Nominations and Election of Officers, Janece Payne  
Admin Assist suggestion: Gordon suggested that I need to read officers job descriptions before nominations are made.  
Janece Payne read the information regarding the nominations and brief job descriptions.

Nominations as follows:

- Chair: Janece Payne was nominated by Connie Hunter and second by Pastor Lancaster.
- Vice Chair: DeAnne Varitek was nominated by Janece Payne and seconded by Connie Hunter.
- Secretary/2nd Vice Chair: Connie Hunter was nominated by Janece Payne and seconded by DeAnne Varitek.
- Zoom Operator 1: Connie Hunter volunteered
- Zoom Operator 2: Sienna volunteered
- Zoom Operator 3: Loren and Jason Farmer volunteered

Janece Payne moved, and Pastor Mike Lancaster seconded to vote for the entire slate of officers as is. Nay: 0. Motion carried. Officers as listed above to serve for 2023 term.

B. Let's Talk: Gordon Clay -- Volunteers as follows:

February – Sienna Peterson will write February's article on Youth Leadership

March – Loren will write an article on Self-harm Awareness

April – Loren may have his article in April

May – Connie Hunter will write an article on Mental Health Month

June – Janece Payne will write an article on PTSD.

July

August

September – Gordon Clay will write an article on Suicide Prevention

October – DeAnne Varitek will write an article on Bullying Prevention

November

December

2023 Strategic Plan development. Gordon Clay Gordon shared excellent resources for the Council to use.

Janece Payne convened a workgroup meeting with Secretary Connie Hunter and anyone who might attend. Strategic plan worksheet might be a good tool to use. Meeting date TBD by Chair Janece.

C. Trainings - A.C.E.s example was explained by Connie Hunter, with input from Loren Farmer, Gordon Clay, Vice Chair Varitek and Chair Payne.

Chair Payne suggested that we include trainings in the strategic plan effort, so that is added to the list for the Strategic Plan worksheet.

Agenda item 9: Old Business

A. Event planning:

—Tabling events - discussion of events, and suggested that a calendar be included in the strategic plan worksheet for this important outreach effort.

—Other suggested, events included Azalea Festival, Pirate Festival, and the County Fair.

—Connie Hunter is researching Oregon Humanities events.

—DeAnne Varitek is coordinating the upcoming Wellness Expo in May.

B. Coffee Sleeves:

Gordon suggested that we upped the quantity on the coffee sleeves instead of 2500. We should do four times that amount. May is Mental Health month or September is Suicide Prevention month so the question to the Council (beyond quantity increase) was when should we do the promotion? \$884.00 / 10,000 cost estimate

C. Coasters: Gordon showed examples of coasters that could be used in bars as well. The question was, should we do coffee sleeves or coasters? \$1,890.00 / 10,000 cost estimate  
DeAnne asked can we do both? Connie will have suggested funding opportunities at the next Council meeting. CCOs likely funder. Gordon will research because there is a possibility that there is other funding from CCOs.

--Motion to approve both promotions and cost estimates (some details TBD) was made by Connie Hunter. Seconded by Pastor, Mike Lancaster. Nay: 0. Motion carried.

C. Strategic plan and bylaws:

Discussion included the convening of an Executive/Administrative workgroup. Date of meetings TBD, bylaws will need re-read, updated, and included in this administrative/organizational infrastructure building effort. Next meeting agenda item for Strategic Planning time (instructions given to Secretary Hunter by Chair Janece Payne.

**REPRESENTATIVES/STAKEHOLDERS REPORTS:**

- Tribal Community, Janece Payne – Forming Task Group is going to be first order of business and hoping to recruit Katrina Upton to join
- Substance Abuse/Recovery, Pastor Mike Lancaster -- Compassion and Recovery Groups meetings soon.
- Veterans Services, Connie Hunter -- Veterans Task Group meeting regularly and suicide prevention trainings are being planned, as well as peer support specialist trainings.
- Youth Ambassador, Siena Peterson – Will be participating in sports and might have conflicts.
- Public Safety Vacant
- Media Vacant
- Mental/Medical Health, Jenny Pugh / Maternity Leave
- Lay Person, Loren Farmer – Vax roll out winding down
- Youth Educator, DeAnne Varitek ([Youth Homeless Report](#))

MINUTES FOR JANUARY 5, 2023 MEETING OF THE CURRY COUNTY SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION COUNCIL  
**PAGE 5**

<b>2022.2023</b>	<b>Elementary</b>	<b>Middle</b>	<b>High School</b>
<b>Brookings</b>	31	13	9
<b>Port Orford</b>	22	9	
<b>Gold Beach</b>	Not provided		

<b>2019-2020</b>	<b>Total #</b>	<b>% of total students</b>
Port Orford-Langlois SD 2CJ	35	15.35
Central Curry SD	21	4.37
Brookings Harbor SD	70	4.52

Meeting was adjourned at 7:31 PM.

7:30 Adjournment, Janece Payne Next Meeting: February 2nd, 2023