

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Special Meeting Minutes
December 11, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m.

Present: Councilmembers Conrado Cavazos, Jr., Barbara Clark, Jerry Cummins, Chris Plucker and Mayor Jim Barrow.

Absent: Councilmembers Mary Lou Jenkins and Shane Laib.

City staff in attendance: City Manager Nabil Shawa, Police Chief Scott Bieber, Parks & Recreation Director Jim Dumont, Public Library Director Beth Hudson, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

ACTIVE AGENDA

A. Presentation regarding gangs.

Councilmember Plucker welcomed attendees and commented he organized this meeting to find out what efforts are being done to prevent and reduce gang violence in Walla Walla.

Introductions were held and participants were asked to identify other partners not represented. The participants identified other potential partners as: Juvenile justice; probation/parole; students; penitentiary; Sheriff; College Place; Milton-Freewater; individuals currently involved in mentorships (boxing clubs, Juntos); and judicial (prosecutors and judges).

Participants discussed the recommendations of the Community Council on gangs and current efforts to implement these recommendations. Participants stressed the need for providing youth with a sense of belonging, having a place to work, having a place to play, and having a place where they feel safe. This is done through individual mentoring with those youth that are committed and mentors are able to connect with.

The participants identified areas the City Council can help in these efforts:

- Coordinate efforts that are currently ongoing through collaboration and identification of resources.
- Identify models for joint funding of facilities.
- Reach people on the street through one-on-one relationships.

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Councilmember Cummins left the meeting at 5:12 p.m. Councilmember Cavazos left the meeting at 5:28 p.m.

Julia Leavitt, Commitment to Community, challenged participants to connect with people living in their neighborhoods.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:38 p.m.