

Mayor: Ethan J. Barnes
Recorder-Treasurer: Mitchell Sparks
Council Members: Penny Allen, Tony Berry
Mark Gordon, Laura Smith
Sue Taylor, Herbert Wise
City Attorney: Joe Grider

City of Hardy, Arkansas

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Minutes of Solar Eclipse Preparedness Committee October 16, 2023 · 5:30 p.m. Hardy City Hall

Mayor Ethan J. Barnes called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. Monday, October 16, 2023, at Hardy City Hall, 124 Woodland Hills Road, Hardy, Arkansas. Recorder-Treasurer Mitchell Sparks called the roll. The following committee members answered to their names: Mark Gordon, Laura Smith, Sue Taylor, Fire Chief Josh Moore and Police Officer Anthony Gielen. Tony Berry, Superintendent Steve Morris and Police Chief Scott Rose were absent.

Councilwoman Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of the Solar Eclipse Preparedness Committee meeting on September 11, 2023. Chief Moore seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passed.

Councilwoman Taylor made a motion to approve the Solar Eclipse Preparedness Committee agenda. Chief Moore seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passed.

Councilwoman Smith made a motion to retract approval the Solar Eclipse Preparedness Committee agenda. Chief Moore seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passed.

Discussion of the A&P Commissions \$300 allocation for CPR Certification Cards was added to new business. Councilwoman Smith made a motion to approve the amended Solar Eclipse Preparedness Committee agenda. Councilwoman Taylor seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

CPR. Moore reported that two people passed their instructor classes. CPR class dates and locations need to be decided. The classes are eight hours long. Moore and Smith will work together to schedule one or more classes. Communications. Mayor said Chief Rose has identified a need for some radios, and the committee has already addressed requesting funds for communications.

Supplies Needed. Detour signs, bandages, medic bags and tents were discussed in previous meetings. No additional supplies were discussed.

Extra Security Needed. Officer Gielen says he and Chief Rose have two or three names for extra security and they are compiling a list. Mayor reminded that the event is less than six months out and training will need to be provided to the volunteers. Tabled discussion of extra security. It will be included on old business on the next meeting agenda.

Gordon asked about grant money for this event. He stated his concern that the money spent would not be recouped by the event. The mayor replied he has not identified any grants.

AED. Chief Moore told the committee that AEDs cost \$1,571.00 (from American First Response, Maumelle) they last between three and seven years depending on the battery and the use. These are compatible with the Spring River Ambulance equipment. Mayor remarked that we should have them in our buildings, including the fire station, civic center, Johnson center, and the gym. Smith asked if A&P Commission could purchase one for the civic center. Barnes requested she bring it up to the council to decide. She stated she would. The committee agreed there is no action to take on AEDs at this time.

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Tents. Chief Moore said he was at surplus last week and they did not have any tents. Smith asked what kind of tents were needed. Moore said canopy type. Smith stated she had two, and Marc Herring had one. Chief Moore suggested Walmart would have some tents. Mayor said they had previously discussed military grade tents. Tabled discussion on tents. It will be included on old business on the next meeting agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

Police Chief Discussion. Police Officer Anthony Gielen, sitting in for Police Chief Rose, stated a lot of things are in planning stages, along with a lot of good ideas including detouring traffic from downtown area. The detouring would take a bit of planning. Not just the day of the event, but a couple of days before. He said that statistically 30% of the eclipse attendees will be traveling the day of the event, and up to 80% will plan on leaving immediately after the event. This will be the biggest headache. Keeping traffic from blocking access to medical services. Alleviating traffic jams. Mayor asked if the discussion in the police department was detour routes and alternate traffic routes. Gielen agreed and mentioned the earlier discussion about the volunteer security. He will be handling training for them to make sure they are well acquainted with the areas to cover, what to look for, the type of calls, and how to contact the police to respond.

Fire Chief Discussion. Moore suggested they post somebody on each end of the bypass to make sure to keep the 18-wheelers out of the downtown area. He said during Homesteader's Day, they had to monitor the train tracks to keep attendees from parking on the tracks.

Fundraising Efforts. Mayor asked about the chili cookoff between the police and fire departments. Chief Moore said he was waiting for cold weather to get here.

A&P \$300 Allocation. Mayor said that last month it was stated that the A&P Commission has up to \$300 for area businesses to take the class for a CPR certification card. A&P was advised by their attorney that they should not provide those funds. Smith clarified that there was concern about A&P having a liability on it. Legal council stated they could do it, but there was a gray area. To be on the safe side, A&P shouldn't do it. Smith made a motion to not accept the \$300 from A&P Commission for CPR Certification training. Taylor seconded the motion. Mayor Barnes called for a roll call vote. Gielen – yes. Gordon – yes. Smith – yes. Taylor – yes. Moore – yes. The vote is six to zero; motion passed.

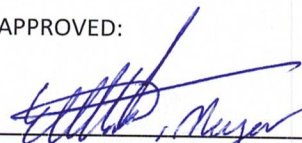
ADJOURN

Councilwoman Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Councilwoman Taylor seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passed, and Mayor Barnes declared the meeting adjourned at 5:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mitchell Sparks, Recorder-Treasurer

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 13 DAY OF November, 2023

APPROVED:


Ethan J. Barnes, Mayor

ATTEST:


Mitchell Sparks, Recorder-Treasurer