

Santa Clara Community Organization
General Meeting
Thursday, November 2, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by the chair, Jerry Finigan. There were 22 present, including 7 Board members. Those in attendance introduced themselves.

The Chair introduced Julie Fahey, State Representative from District 14. Representative Fahey gave a summary of the recent legislative session. She said the major issue that was addressed was a \$1.8 billion dollar shortfall. Another challenge was that the Medicaid expansion was sunseting. Also there is a major housing shortfall causing a rent burden on many Oregonians. The good news was that, in the end, the legislature was able to essentially fund all State services and agencies. The Representative said her only regret was that the Legislature was not able to advance funding for education in the State. She described the Healthcare Provider Assessment which, if approved by voters, will keep healthcare for 350,000 Oregonians. Also the Equal Pay Laws passed prohibits employers to look at the salary history of new hires, assuring that workers will more likely be paid commensurable to the job they are performing. Also some limits were put on some employers from requiring their workers to be continually on-call. The Legislature set aside \$40 million for affordable housing and homeless sheltering. Representative said she will be allowed to introduce two bills in the upcoming limited January session.

At 7:31 the Chair introduced Jill Chadbourne of Cornerstone Housing. She introduced the new iteration of the redevelopment plan for affordable on the lot on Hunsaker Lane. It would mean construction of housing 22 apartments. This was followed by a question and answer session.

The business meeting was called to order at 7:58 p.m.

Patrick Kerr moved the minutes from the October 5th meeting be approved as submitted, Peter Thurston seconded. Motion passed.

Jerry Finigan gave the treasury report. The bank account shows \$797.32. The Community Garden Account is \$669.11, with a check for \$316 being written to St. Matthews for the water bill for this year. Other assets include \$99 in the Eugene Neighbors, Inc. account and \$22 in cash for the printing fund. Assets total is \$918.32.

Announcements:

- Commissioner Jay Bozievich gave an update on the homeless camping program proposed by the County Commission. This program allows private citizens, businesses and churches to provide space for limited homeless camping. He said that it was discovered that no ordinance change would be need to institute the program which gives it a clearer path, but has the downside of not requiring a public hearing so Jay and Commissioner Farr will do some outreach before November 28 when the County Commission will decide about whether to go ahead with this. Gary Haliski and Louis Vidmar discussed the effectiveness of the homeless issue presented at St. Matthews earlier in the month.

Announcements, cont.

- RR-SC Neighborhood Plan launch – Patrick Kerr reviewed the success of the Neighborhood Plan Forum on October 17. He suggested there be an energetic recruiting effort of our neighbors in the interim before the next forum. There was a discussion of how we involve our neighbors as we move forward. George Price stressed the need to downplay the political side of this project and underline the goal of determining the future of our community. City Councilor, Clare Syrett said her job of getting funds for this project was made much easier by all the preparatory work of SCRROL and SCRRIP over the last seven years.
- Arleigh Dhonau reported that the City has a goal of planting 2011 giant sequoias between now and the year 2011. This is also included in the plan for development of Lone Oak Park (segue into first “report”)

Reports:

- Rebecca Marx described the progress on realizing an unfenced dog park at Lone Oak. The date for submitting proposed matching grants has been extended to November 14 and she hopes to submit a proposal for a bark-o-mulch path and a kiosk; and is hoping for a donation from Delta Sand and Gravel of rock along the eastern edge for parking. SCCO will need to vote support for the application for a matching grant.
- Awbrey Park: Jessica Heikkinen reminded the group that this coming Saturday (November 4) is the first Saturday of the month, so is the volunteer work party at Awbrey Park. Last month a lot of good work was done in clearing invasives from the creek. This time, with the rain softening the ground the coming session will probably concentrate on getting blackberries from around the trails.
- Santa Clara Community Garden: Peter Thurston said the garden is wrapping up for the summer season. On Saturday, November 11 at 11 a.m. there will be a free workshop at the Garden demonstrating a variety of composting techniques.
- Land Use: Kate Perle reported that the LTD plans for Hunsaker and River Road has been put on hold as the City is considering purchasing part of the lot for a community plaza. It is not clear how SCCO might be able to help to realize its vision of a community center for the area, but possibly working with the LTD Board might be a good place to start.
- Peter Thurston reported that Luper Cemetery will have an open house for Veterans Day, being open between 9 and 3 both Saturday and Sunday.
- Kate Perle reminded the group about the “Fill Your Pantry” event scheduled for November 19 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Lane Events Center.

Old Business:

Peter Thurston moved, Louie Vidmar seconded that SCCO support the submission of a matching grant for the Lone Oak unfenced dog park. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business: none

meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

submitted,

Jerry Finigan