

RHODODENDRON CPO

Meeting Minutes
October 22, 2011
Zig Zag Inn

◆ Open Meeting

President Sharon Lamoreaux opened the meeting at 10:30AM. She welcomed the eleven in attendance and determined a quorum was present. There were a few opening remarks regarding an order change in the agenda.

◆ Read Minutes

Nancy Dougherty was asked to read the minutes of the July 23, 2011 CPO meeting. Since the meeting minutes were emailed to the community and posted at the Rhododendron post office, Merv Novinger made a motion, seconded by Barbara Novinger, to dispense with the reading of the minutes. There was no discussion and the vote was unanimous to dispense with the reading of the minutes.

Sharon asked if there were any corrections, additions or deletions to the minutes circulated. Hearing none, she declared the minutes of the July 23, 2012 Rhododendron CPO meeting be accepted as posted.

◆ Treasures Report

Co-Treasurer's Merv and Barbara Novinger were asked to give the Treasures Report. Merv Novinger reported that there was \$628.99 in the checking account, \$200.00 of that is reserved for the garden. There was some discussion regarding the Clackamas County reimbursement check for 2010–2011 expenses. Evidently, no submission for reimbursement has been sent to the county. Sharon indicated she would follow up with Barbara Smolack at Clackamas County regarding the reimbursement. The Treasures report was submitted.

◆ Old Business (Tabled)

Sharon asked that Old business be tabled to allow Mike Rysavy (Who needed to leave early) to report on his Land Use Application.

◆ New Business (Out of agenda order)

Land use application: Mike Rysavy report

Mike Rysavy reported on the history surrounding his need to submit a Land Use Application to Clackamas County. Essentially, he needed to gain county approval for a structure that was illegally placed on the property prior to his purchase of the property. He reported that the County has approved, with conditions, his application to establish a residence on an existing legal lot of record through the Clackamas County Forest Template Test provision, the only option available because the property is zoned Timber.

◆ Old Business (Un-Tabled)

Rhododendron Signage Update: Guest Speaker, Jeannine Breshears from Clackamas County Tourism and Cultural Affairs

Ms. Breshears reported on the Mt Hood Scenic By-Way project and signage grant update. She indicated that the status of the signage grant is still unknown and the status has not changed for the past year. However, she took the opportunity to educate the CPO on the benefits of the area being declared a National Scenic By-Way. After she explained the history and benefits of the National Scenic By-Way project, she explained that while the signage project grant has been “awarded” for the Clackamas County portion of the project, the reimbursable nature of the project grant prevents the county from moving

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forward until all contracts have been awarded and signed. There was considerable discussion regarding the intricacies of the Mt. Hood National Scenic By-Way and several questions on the specifics of the various signs and projects. When discussion concluded, it was recommended that in order for the Rhododendron CPO to be ready for signage, once the approval to move forward has been given, it would be beneficial if the CPO could work with ODOT on the specifics and requirements of sign placement along ODOT Right of Way.

For more information on the Mt. Hood Scenic By-Way Signage and Interpretation Grant visit:

<http://www.bywaysonline.org/grants/funded/detail.html?id=56048>

Or

The link to the Interpretive Management Plan & Design Guide:

<http://www.mthoodterritory.com/partners/interpretive.pdf>

Or

Contact the Project Coordinator, Jeannine Breshears at: jeannine@mthoodterritory.com or by phone at 503-655-8419

Rhododendron CPO Boundary Update

Steve Graeper has been heading the effort to expand the boundaries of the current CPO. Due to a scheduling conflict, he was unable to attend this meeting, but he wanted to relay the message that he continues to work on this expansion project. Graeper submitted the following report that the chair read into the minutes.

Report on the Rhododendron CPO Boundary change: Steve Graeper

Unfortunately, there has been little progress to report. During the summer, Graeper has been involved with obtaining approval from Clackamas County to absorb the boundaries of the Faubion Community Association and the John Lake Home Owners Association into the Rhododendron Water Association Boundaries. That effort was successful and he can now concentrate on the CPO Boundary issue.

The process to adjust the CPO Boundaries is considerably more cumbersome than the process to adjust the Water Association Boundaries. However, the process gave him some good insight into the workings of Clackamas County. One major insight was to have limited contact with the county and to wrap the entire process up in one, all-inclusive, package.

As previously reported, Steve has been having considerable difficulty communicating with the Government Camp CPO. At the July 23 Rhody CPO meeting, it was suggested that Rhody CPO proceed with the western boundary expansion and pursue the eastern boundary adjustment later. Because of his recent dealing with the county and because the county is very specific in their boundary change requirements, Steve suggests the CPO not do that.

Instead, he suggests he continue his attempts to contact the Government Camp CPO in order to get their conditional approval. To that end, Steve has had recent communication with Maryellen Englesby, who is very involved with the Government Camp CPO and she will inform him of their next meeting.

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Once Government Camp has given conditional approval, he will submit an article to the Mt. Times and schedule a series of "Community Forums" to openly discuss the issue and answer any questions the communities involved may have, as per county instructions.

The final requirement would then be, to place the issue before the residents in the areas involved, including Rhododendron, for all to vote on. In the case of CPO boundary changes, a simple majority of votes cast will constitute the decision to change or not change the CPO boundary. Once that is accomplished, the issue then goes before the County Commissioners for their approval.

The time line for this process to be completed looks to be by midyear 2012, if all goes well.

The question was raised as to how many households would be affected in by the boundary expansion. The answer is approximately 500. The Rhododendron CPO boundary currently encompasses approximately 250 households. The Faubion and Woodlands addition to the west would include approximately 75 households and the Forest Service Cabins to the east would encompass approximately 425. If the boundary expansions were successful, the approximate number of households served by the Rhododendron CPO would expand from 250 to 750.

Rhododendron Memorial Garden Update

Merv Novinger reported that a watering schedule was implemented over the summer and he is happy to report that no Rhododendrons were lost this year. Watering has ceased for the year and the garden is expected to winter over as natural planting for the area. Carol Haugk reported on the work done to date and commented on the stakes and ribbons she has placed to protect plantings. She was pleased that this year the Hood to Coast participants did not park in the garden area.

◆ Other Old Business

Linny thought there was some previous discussion regarding the ODOT signage in Rhododendron and a desire to have it removed. Sharon is going to follow-up with Linny as to the particulars. No further action was taken.

◆ New Business (In agenda order)

ODOT Garden Permit renewal

Sharon indicated that the ODOT permit to maintain the garden is coming up for renewal. Barbara Novinger made a motion, seconded by Nancy Dougherty to allow Sharon Lamoreaux to contact ODOT and renew the permit for the Rhododendron Garden. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

CPO Road Clean up

Carol Hauck reported that she spent 4.5 hours for road clean up and only retrieved a small garbage bag worth of garbage and she was very pleased that the amount of garbage has significantly declined.

Garage Sale property

Carol Hauck reported that she has been tracking the garage sale taking place on the property adjacent to the garden. The county has been contacted and the sale has concluded. Carol was assured by the county

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that the merchandise is going to be cleaned up by the participants and if not it will be discarded by the county.

Recent Break-ins

Merv Novinger inquired about some recent break-ins or vandalism and it was determined that they were localized down near Welches and Brightwood. However, it is always wise to be vigilant and if you see something, say something. Sharon received a flyer indicating we need to be on the lookout for a late 60's early 70's Black Ford pickup with a red stripe. Apparently, it has been associated with some recent break-ins.

Log Lodge property

Linnny indicated there is a new roof being installed on the old Log Lodge building. She also noted there is some debris on the property that has been there for a long time and wondered who should be contacted to see that it is cleaned up. She was told that Doug and Anne Kinne are still the registered owners and that they should be contacted about any irregularities at the property.

◆ Adjournment

The next Rhododendron CPO meeting will be held on Saturday, March 10, 2012 at the Zig Zag Inn at 10:30 a.m.

The Rhododendron CPO meeting was adjourned at 12:00PM

Respectfully submitted
Steve Graeper, Secretary