

RHODODENDRON CPO

4th Quarter Meeting Minutes

October 20, 2012

Zig Zag Inn

◆ Open Meeting

President Steve Graeper opened the meeting at 10:02am. He welcomed the members and guests in attendance and determined a quorum was present.

◆ Read Minutes

President Graeper called for the reading of the minutes of the July 21, 2012 CPO meeting. Since the meeting minutes were emailed to the community and posted at the Rhododendron Post Office, Sharon Lamoreaux, seconded by Carol Haugk, made a **motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes**. It **passed** by a unanimous vote.

President Graeper asked if there were any corrections or additions to the circulated minutes. There were none. Michelle Lamoreaux, seconded by Carol Haugk, **made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 21, 2012 as distributed**. The motion **passed** by unanimous vote.

◆ Treasures Report

Beginning combined balances (Garden & General fund) as of July 2012 was \$719.68.

GARDEN FUND:

At that time, the Garden Fund had \$37.99 left. Since July, The Hoodland Chamber of Commerce generously donated \$250.00. Carol Haugk was reimbursed \$10.90 and the Novinger's were reimbursed \$119.97. Both of these reimbursements were for supplies to maintain the garden, and plants to enhance the garden. The ending balance in the Garden Fund as of October 20th, 2012 was \$157.12.

GENERAL FUND:

Of the \$719.68 beginning balance, \$681.69, belonged to the general fund. Zig Zag Inn was paid \$5.85 to pay for the 7/21/12 CPO meeting. The CPO received \$15.00 in donations at the July meeting and Lanny Adamson made a generous donation of \$50.00 to be applied toward the IRS filing fee for the CPO's tax-exempt status. The ending balance in the General Fund as of October 20, 2012 was \$740.84.

The combined ending balance, as of October 20, 2012 was \$897.96.

Sharon Lamoreaux gave an updated report on the tax-exempt IRS filing status. To satisfy Clackamas County Bank, Sharon needs to change the name from Rhododendron Neighborhood Association to Rhododendron CPO. As of this date she has submitted three letters to the IRS in Ogden, UT to change the name only to discover she was given wrong information as to where to send the letters. Until the name is changed, she cannot file for the Tax-Exempt status, which will entail a form 1023 to IRS requesting tax-exempt changes. As of this meeting the CPO status was still in limbo. It is not known at this time if it will be done by the first of the year.

◆ Guest Speaker

Steve Graeper introduced Mr. Edwin Klaassen who is the Assistant Engineering Zone Manager and Roads CET of the USDA Forest Service in the Mt. Hood National Forest. He was invited here mainly to address the problems we are having with the roads in our area. He said he understood our frustrations concerning the road conditions. He stated that the road issues they are facing on Mt.

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Hood are “cumbersome”. Mr. Klaassen and his department are responsible for over 3000 miles of road. Due to budget issues his department was reduced to five employees in 2004-2005 and they have a very limited budget. With so many FS roads neglected for so long, right now Mr. Klaassen’s department has been in “Catch-up mode” to get the roads back up to acceptable level. They are very restricted as to how they allocate their money. Sharon Lamoreaux asked Mr. Klaassen about his budget and if he had any idea as to how long it might take before he can address the roads in our area. He could not give any clear time frame, especially since his budget has recently declined another 17-25%. Steve Graeper asked for a dollar amount being appropriated for roads. Mr. Klaassen said the amount went from 1.6 million dollars down to \$500,000.00. Linny Adamson asked him specifically about Road 20 maintenance and the Road 20 Bridge. The bridge on Road 20 is still under consideration as to what needs to be done and no time frame was given for its repair or reopening. He said it depended on the severity of the problems they find after the engineers look at it. As for road maintenance, Road 20 is a level three (low level) road and the other FS Roads are even lower. For right now, the higher-level roads are getting the attention and once they are up to par, perhaps then we could expect some action on our road issues. He basically said his hands were tied. One option that seems viable is that he plans to have several loads of gravel delivered to strategic locations around our area and have the citizens take care of and fill road potholes, etc. Mr. Klaassen said he would be happy to work with us. As for other roads in the area, he shared that Hwy 26 is getting a lot of attention from ODOT and the Forest Service because several trees are to be removed along the Right-of-way mainly for safety issues.

◆ Old Business

Nominations for Vice President

CPO President Graeper opened the nominations for Vice President and nominated Mike Rysavy for the position of Vice-President of the Rhododendron CPO. There were no other nominations and nominations from the floor were closed. A vote was taken and Mr. Mike Rysavy was elected Vice President by unanimous vote.

Rhododendron Memorial Garden Update: Carol Haugk report

Carol Haugk suggested that all the information on what has been done in the Rhododendron garden over the last two years be put together and given to whomever takes charge of the garden in 2013. She said that John Young has offered to burn the grass on the rocks around the D.A.R. monument. Merv Novinger gave a garden update and how a portion of the monies donated from the Chamber of Commerce had been spent. Barbara and Merv Novinger plan on attending the next Chamber of Commerce meeting November 6th, 2012 and giving them a report. Barbara Novinger has been in touch with Connie Scott.

Rhododendron signage and Mt. Hood Scenic By-Way update: Sharon Lamoreaux report.

The Rhododendron “By Ways” sign time frame is still up in the air. It was the general consensus that the sign be placed in the vicinity of the D.A.R. monument. Sharon said she would work with Ed Klaassen on sign information. Lamoreaux also said she would get the ODOT Permit renewed.

Rhododendron CPO Boundary Update: Steve Graeper report

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Regarding the CPO boundary change, Steve Graeper reported it is stalled at this time because of the Mt. Hood Corridor CPO (MHC-CPO) and the changes taking place within that organization. Graeper said he would attend the next MHC-CPO meeting, whenever that will be, to find out how they intend to proceed and to let them know we plan to retain our own Rhododendron CPO identity and not absorb the entire MHC-CPO boundary as had been suggested by MHC-CPO.

Rhododendron CPO Road Cleaning: Carol Haugk report

Carol Haugk gave her road-cleaning report. She has spent numerous hours cleaning trash and debris from roadways adopted by the CPO. She would like some help in keeping the roads clear of debris and trash and asked that everyone who sees trash or debris along the roads to pick it up. Anna Kinne was concerned about the dry grass along Hwy 26 adjacent to her building. She found numerous cigarette butts in this area. It was felt that this area needed cutting in the future. ODOT is in charge of clearing that area and will be contacted.

◆ New Business

Michelle Lamoreaux brought up the bear problem in our area. Steve Graeper said this would be addressed at the next CPO meeting.

◆ Adjournment

The next Rhododendron CPO meeting will be held on Saturday, January 19, 2013 at the Zig Zag Inn at 10:00AM. The Rhododendron CPO meeting was adjourned at 12:30PM.

Respectfully submitted

Merv Novinger, Co-Secretary