

DRAFT

**VILLAGES AT MT. HOOD
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Minutes

November 5, 2013

Chair Bob Reeves called the November meeting of the Board of Directors of the Villages at Mt Hood to order at 4:02 pm at the Hoodland Fire District meeting room, 69634 E. Hwy 26, Welches, Oregon.

Attendance:

Board Members Present: Bob Reeves, George Wilson, Judith Norval, Marci Slater

Absent:

Excused: Nathaniel Ingrao

County Staff Present: Randall Harmon, Road Operations Supervisor; Jae Heidenreich, County Tourism; Mike Bezner, Engineering Manger; Joseph Marek, County Traffic Engineer, Director of Clackamas Safe Communities; Danielle Cowan, Executive Director of Clackamas County Tourism.

Kate Roth was absent. Marci Slater, Secretary, was asked to take the minutes for the meeting. Gary Schmidt, County Liaison, was absent.

Also Present: Mark Johnson, State Representative; Coni Scott, Director of Chamber of Commerce; and residents: Nancy Spencer, Mary Ann Coyle, Jim Swyter, Donna Waltman, Pat Sharp.

Approval of Minutes:

The October 1 2013 Board of Directors Meeting minutes were presented for review. Judith Norval moved to approve the minutes as written. George Wilson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

Judith Norval, Treasurer, reported that there is a Bank account balance of \$3996.63. Ms. Norval also requested approval of the Board to pay the annual Chamber of Commerce dues of \$35.00. George Wilson made a motion to approve the disbursement of funds for the dues. Bob Reeves seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Communications to the Board:

Bob Reeves reported that there will be a Flood Meeting on November 6, 2013 at Timberline Rim Lodge at 6:30 pm.

Persons to be Heard:

Nancy Spencer reported that the Mt Hood History Museum in Government Camp will be holding its annual Heritage Day Saturday November 9 beginning at 6:00 pm. There is a new exhibit sponsored by the Mt Hood Ski Patrol. There will also be a Silent Auction and beverages will be served. The new bus schedule will help people ride up the mountain to participate. The Museum will also host an artisans fair 11/29, 30, 31, 2013.

Chamber Report:

Con Scott reported on the recent Chamber of Commerce Meeting. The primary discussion was around the Express Bus and its new schedule.

Staff Liaison Report:

Bob Reeves reported that Gary Schmidt was not able to be at the meeting tonight and Barbara Smolak is on vacation. Mr. Reeves suggested that if anyone has questions for Mr. Schmidt they should email Mr. Reeves and he would pass those questions on to Mr. Schmidt next week.

Old Business:

Judith Norval reported on the issue of name tags. She had done some research into the ordering and purchasing of name tags for the Board. Ms. Norval requested that she be sent a usable version of the Villages of Mt. Hood logo for use on the name tags. George Wilson stated that he would find that and get it to Ms. Norval.

Meeting with County Staff regarding Bicycle Tourism:

It was confirmed that the Villages of Mt Hood will hold a Town Hall Meeting to specifically address infrastructure issues as they relate to Bicycle Tourism and bicycle/pedestrian (bike/ped) pathways on January 18, 2014 from 9:30 am to Noon at the Resort on the Mountain. Mike Bezner will check on County participant's availability for that date and get back to Bob Reeves. Bob Reeves stated he would reserve a space with the Resort.

Three Clackamas County Department of Transportation staff persons were present and presented the county plans on infrastructure changes as they relate to bike/ped use which is part of the Transportation System Plan (TSP). Mike Bezner reported that the Clackamas County Commissioners talked about this subject in their meeting this morning. Mr. Bezner presented a planning sheet for both ODOT and County DOT outlining the projects on the list and the time table for completion. The sheet, created to show projects in the Hoodland area only, shows Arrah Wanna Blvd, Welches Road, and Fairway Ave. all as Tier 1 Capital Projects to be completed in the next 20 years. Long Term Capital Projects (Tier 3) for the county include: Barlow Trail Rd, Lolo Pass Rd, Welches Rd (south of Birdie Lane to Salmon River Rd.), and Salmon River Rd. (See attached Project Sheet) This plan shows an improvement to these roads by adding a paved shoulder, not specifically a Bike Lane. Mr. Bezner reported that is easier to get funding for paved shoulders. It was also pointed out that citizens throughout the county had an

opportunity to and did participate in county wide town halls to get input on the TSP. As a result of these meetings, Welches Rd was moved up to Tier 1. The attached TSP was approved 11/4/13 with funding TBA. The Plan is a 20 year look at planned projects. It was reported that the County DOT is interested in increased dialogue regarding these issues by increasing the two way dialogue between interested and invested citizens and the County.

Randy Harmon, County Transportation Maintenance Supervisor, reported that there are 1400 miles of county roads to maintain. Clackamas County has the most county run roads in the state. There are 43 workers to do the job. There are 17 snow plows for all the county roads. He stated that he is very aware of road conditions. The traffic volume on most roads does not warrant repaving and are on a schedule for chip sealing. Some of the paving that had been done over the last few years has been done with Stimulus money from the Federal Government. Judith Norval asked if the snow plowing could be done in a way to avoid drive ways as it is impossible for elderly or disabled people to dig out the snow mound created by the plow. Mr. Harmen responded by saying that short of stopping the plow and talking to the driver there is little the county DOT can do. Danielle Cowan suggested that perhaps social services volunteers could help clear driveways. Judith Norval stated that there is a new teen organization in the community, TIC (Teens in their Community) who may be able to help.

George Wilson spoke about the Villages Board decision to adopt a Bike/Pedestrian Tourism Plan for the Hoodland area. He expressed concerns about road conditions and bike safety. He also asked what is being done to minimize damage to Lolo Pass Rd when ODOT uses this road to take the debris from the near future HWY 26 repairs to its dumping place off of Lolo Pass at the Forest Service Quarry. Bob Reeves suggested that ODOT will be responsible for the road maintenance needs as a result of this hauling activity. The suggestion was made that perhaps Clackamas DOT could partner with ODOT on the repairs of Lolo Pass Rd to add paved shoulders at this time.

Jae Heidenreich made a presentation for the County Department of Tourism regarding Bicycle Tourism. Attached to these minutes is the point by point presentation handout given to attendees at the meeting. It has the heading "Villages of Mt. Hood November 5 2013". After the presentation, George Wilson stated that he is encouraged by the development of the Mt Hood Bike/Ped Coalition recently started by him and involving folks from all over the area. Danielle Cowan thanked Mr. Wilson for his activism on the issue. Mr. Wilson said he is working on connecting Multnomah and Clackamas County efforts to improve Bike/Ped tourism plans. He said he is also working with Petr Kakes of Ski Bowl to establish a plan to connect bike paths for one path from Hoodland to Government Camp. The question is: from where does the money come? Ms. Cowan suggested grants from Tourism.

Joe Marek, Clackamas County DOT and implementer of TSP, said he is very excited about the synergy surrounding cycling issues. He also counseled that diplomatic persistence works the best to get things done in the government. He added that "Share the Road" signs will be put up this winter and presented a plan for these signs (see attachments). Marci Slater asked that all discussions on infrastructure improvements include pedestrian use as well as bicycle use. Mr. Marek stated that the ATP (Active Transportation Plan) addresses the safety of all road users and has increased the scope by establishing new trails. He is also working on directional signage for urban and rural bike corridors. George Wilson said his goal would be to connect all the villages in Hoodland through a series of bike/ped pathways making it safer and easier to travel locally on bike or foot. Bob Reeves interjected that the TSP addresses the next step in funding and planning through out the various County Departments. Mark Johnson, State Representative, Made the point that this is a regional issue. He used the example of Hood River County recently working with Multnomah County to create a continuous bike path from The Pearl

neighborhood in Portland to Cascade Locks. All new projects help in the entire region to generate tourist dollars. Mike Bezner stated that he is very frustrated with the lack of funding for these and all County DOT projects. He described the Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) which he reported means there is money for new projects that involve accessing federal lands. And there is a lot of federal land in Clackamas County. He stated that, basically, if the Forest Service supports the project it has a very good chance of getting federal funding through FLAP. Marci Slater asked about licensing bike riders and registering bicycles the same as drivers and cars. These fees could help general some of the funding for these projects. Mike Bezner stated that that is a state issue. Mark Johnson stated that the idea has been suggested in Salem but was confident that no progress would be made on that front until 2015. George Wilson stated that he felt that imposing fees on cyclists would be ok as long as those fees were used for these kinds of improvements. He also reminded everyone that bicycles don't have nearly the negative effect on roads that cars have. Bob Reeves reminded attendees that if people want better roads it will cost them money. He also mentioned that having a County liaison has been very helpful in getting things done for the Hoodland area at the County level.

There was a brief discussion about the content of the January Town Hall. County staff was encouraged to make the same presentation at that meeting as was made at this meeting. George Wilson requested and was given a copy of the drafts for the signage work to be done on Marmot and Barlow Trail Roads (attached to these minutes as stated above). He also thanked the DOT staff for the signage and reminded them of a stop sign warning sign needed on Lolo Pass Road approaching Hwy 26. Joe Marek said that would happen soon.

George Wilson brought the issue of the Timber Ridge Sale and wondered why the Board was not notified of the posting. This regards the Clackamas County scheduled timber sale near Brightwood Tavern. No answer was given.

Bob Reeves thanked everyone for coming to the board meeting especially the county staff from Oregon City and Mark Johnson from Hood River.

Adjournment: Chair Bob Reeves adjourned the meeting at 5:52 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marci Slater
Board Secretary.