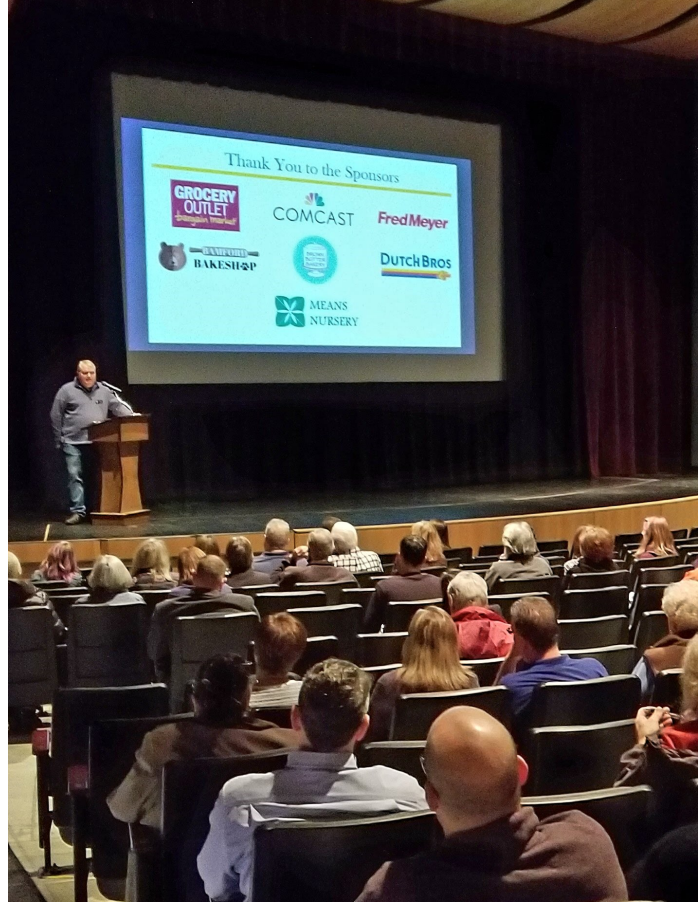


City of Scappoose Newsletter ~ March 2018



On February 10th, over 100 community residents woke up early on a Saturday morning to attend the 3rd Annual Town Meeting sponsored by the City of Scappoose. The general purpose of the event is to update the public on current and future City projects, but more importantly, it is an opportunity for residents to give feedback on the direction of the City. These meetings are essential for a healthy and vibrant community because they help hold City staff accountable and provide clarity to the public on decisions that will impact their daily lives in Scappoose. For those who were not able to attend, please read the following to gain insight on the topics covered and results of the break out session.

The first half of the meeting focused on updates from City staff who discussed progress in meeting community goals that had been identified in the 1st Annual Town Meeting two years ago. This helped demonstrate how the City actively pursues many of the concerns identified by the public. This section led perfectly into the follow-up break out session which asked the attendees the same three questions from the 1st Annual Town Meeting. The three questions asked were, what do you like about Scappoose, what would you like to see change and what would you like to see more of? Attendees broke out into small groups and identified the following recommendations (see below) and ideas for Council consideration. The City Council will meet on March 5th to review community recommendations and establish City goals for the upcoming year. Full results of the break out can be found on the City website in a few weeks.

What do you like about Scappoose?

- Small town
- Safe place to raise a family
- Natural resources and outdoor recreational opportunities
- Proximity to Portland
- Business friendly with appropriate amount of development

What do you want to see change?

- Create a branding and action plan to improve the downtown area
- Create a Parks District to help fund park development and CZ trail improvements
- Update the zoning codes to allow high density development and encourage annexations
- More community events and things to do with young children
- Create an economic development plan to attract better paying jobs to the area

(Continued on back page)

(Annual Town Meeting ~ continued from the front page)

What do you want to see more of?

- Improved quality and connectivity of sidewalks
- Better access and quality of healthcare
- More affordable housing developments
- More parks (open space, natural areas, neighborhood and pocket parks) and trail connectivity
- Adult education and job training through PCC

The second half of the meeting featured several speakers who discussed a number of important issues facing the City. State Senator Betsy Johnson updated attendees about efforts to promote and develop OMIC (Oregon Manufacturing Innovation Center) which she has been closely involved with and that could lead to significant new job opportunities in Scappoose. Pat Well from the Scappoose Bay Watershed Council shared their plans to improve fish habitat and reconfigure the banks along South Scappoose Creek near Veterans Park. PCC and the Port of St. Helens also shared their plans for the Scappoose area with attendees.

The City would like to offer a big THANK YOU to all of you who took the time to attend. We really appreciate your participation and enthusiasm. Just remember, together we can make a difference.

City Manager Michael Sykes

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY



The Scappoose Police Department's success in solving crimes is enhanced by the active involvement of the citizens of Scappoose. When you call to report suspicious activity, you not only help the police department, but you make your neighborhood a safer place to live and work.

What is Suspicious Activity?

- Persons loitering around schools, parks or secluded areas.
- A stranger entering your neighbor's house or garage
- Anyone removing accessories, such as license plates or gas from a vehicle.
- Open or broken doors at a home or business.
- Anyone peering into parked cars in the neighborhood – they could be looking to steal items.
- A vehicle on the street which appear abandoned.
- People cutting through yards or sitting in a parked vehicle for a long period of time.

These are just a few examples, it's suspicious if it makes you uncomfortable.

Call us to report suspicious activity in Scappoose 503-397-1521

Mark your Calendar

- * City Council meetings on March 5 & 19, at 7:00 pm
- * Planning Commission meeting on March 8 & 22, at 7:00 pm
- * Economic Development Committee meeting on March 15, at 12:00 pm
- * Park & Recreation Committee meeting on March 15, at 6:00 pm

Meetings are held in the Scappoose City Council Chambers at 33568 East Columbia Avenue
Call Scappoose City Hall at 503-543-7146 for more information
Utility Bills are due the 15th of each month

Watts House Information ~ The Scappoose Historical Society invites anyone who would like to share their historic memorabilia of early families and businesses to contact Karen Holmberg, 503-970-3920 for an appointment. We are on winter hours, but we will be glad to be available for donations or for documents and pictures to be loaned for scanning/copying. Your assistance in creating new historical displays and information available to the public will be very much appreciated.

To report a street light out/not working properly ~

Visit our website at ~ <http://www.ci.scappoose.or.us/publicworks/webform/report-street-light-out>
or call Susan at 503-543-7146, ext 224

City of Scappoose
33568 East Columbia Avenue
Scappoose, Oregon 97056
503-543-7146

Visit our website www.ci.scappoose.or.us



Friends of Scappoose Parks: Coming Soon!



The City is considering creating the Friends of Scappoose Parks as a way to give residents, local businesses and organizations an opportunity to be more involved with the City's park system. Please read more about the program below and learn how you can you can start making an impact in your community!

At the 2017 Annual Town Meeting, 72% of the attendees said that Scappoose's park system didn't meet their needs. From this feedback, the City has worked hard to improve the quality and quantity of parks available to the public. For example, the City has added new playgrounds at Miller Park, improved features at Heritage Park (including the fountain), and developed plans for a new park currently referred to as Seely Park. The City has a strong desire to continue to improve the park system, but is facing challenges with meeting these ambitious goals due to time and budget constraints. Many of these issues result from the fact that the City only has one full time parks employee which makes it difficult to keep up with the maintenance of the current parks, let alone the addition of new park developments. This is where you come in because to meet the needs and goals of the community for a better park system, we need your help!

The program will focus on four types of projects: community outreach, fundraising, adopt-a-park, and volunteer clean up events. Community outreach would focus on promoting parks to the public and recruiting volunteers to be more involved with park projects. Fundraising would help raise much needed funds for the park system by reaching out to local businesses and organizations for partnership opportunities, like funding a new bench, basketball court, or other park amenities. Special fundraising events could also be planned as a way to raise money and connect with the community. The adopt-a-park program would allow local businesses, organizations, neighborhoods, and other community groups the ability to adopt a section of a park or CZ trail where they would be responsible for their sections maintenance and improvements. Activities allowed include picking up trash, planting native vegetation, or creating a community garden. Volunteer clean up events would be held on a special day (annually, quarterly, monthly, or on holidays) where community volunteers can come together to help the park system by cleaning up a designated park.

We are confident that the Friends of Scappoose Parks program offers a great opportunity to bring the community together to improve the park system. The best part about this program is that it allows community volunteers to work hands-on to keep Scappoose's parks clean, attractive, and safe for everyone. Please stay tuned in the next couple of weeks for more about this exciting program. We hope that the program will be able to begin this spring. If you have any questions or would like to sign up as a volunteer, please contact Garrett Peterson at (503) 543-7184 or gpeterson@cityofscappoose.org.