



# SCAPPOOSE *Oregon*

## **Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Scappoose City Hall, 33568 E Columbia Ave., Scappoose, OR 97056**

**April 15, 2021 12:00 Noon – 1:30 pm**

**Attendees:** Brian Rosenthal, Jeannet Santiago, Michael Leipzig, George Hafeman, Christine Turner, Susan Wilson, Tina Amela, Alex Rains, Brenda Michael, Heidi Ralls, Casey Garrett, Jeff Weiss, Mike Sykes, Paul Vogel, Isaac Butman

**Absent:** Len Waggoner, Larry Eriksen, Josh Poling, Alex Tardif, Huell White, Laurie Oliver

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 12:04 PM by Chair Brian Rosenthal.

#### **1.1 Agenda**

A request was made to switch the 100-Year update with the CCET member application. A member motioned to approve the Agenda. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

#### **1.2 Meeting minutes**

A member made a motion to approve the January 21, 2021 meeting minutes. Susie seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### **2. New Business**

#### **2.1 Updates**

- 2.1.1 **County** – Casey Garrett stated that the John Gum School acquisition is happening, there is an offer in, and they are hoping to close over next few months. The acquisition will include a renovation of the 1<sup>st</sup> floor. There are some ideas about the Community Center and a partnership with CCET and Col Pac. It will be nice to bring a historic building such as this schoolhouse into the economic development sphere. Regarding the CZ trail, the County is finalizing a project for 20 new kiosks along the trail talking about the local history and natural/geologic history, native plants, and more. There was a complaint about the Highway 30/CZ Trail intersection about parking/car movement where folks park but are not supposed to park. The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) looked into this but there is no solution yet. The County suggested an art project or installation to block access and ODOT was tentatively receptive.

Jeff stated Michael Curry suggested a pedestrian archway at that entrance to the trail too. Casey mentioned the money could be a match to something larger and more encompassing. Mike stated that people are used to parking there, and maybe looking at property across the street by the fire station that is unused, in the floodplain, and has been on the market, as a parking area could help with this. Casey stated that this has been talked about.

- 2.1.2 **City** – The City of Scappoose is working through the budget process. A new City Ap is available. The 50-Year visioning process will be kicking off soon, and City Council is wanting to be proactive in planning, looking at various facets of the future. The Grabhorn Park Ad Hoc Committee is kicking off tonight looking at revisiting the design concept. The Stormwater plan and System Development Charge changes are under way. The City has been working with the State Representative and State Senator to have some of the latest American Recovery Funds diverted to Scappoose for infrastructure projects such as stormwater or the basalt well.



- 2.1.3 **CRPUD** –Heidi stated that last week the PUD started converting 13,000 feet of overhead lines to underground lines. The small business Covid relief grant is active, and the CRPUD is also offering \$7,500 Economic Development grants for nonprofits as well. They may be restructuring the program in the near future. The CRPUD Board is developing a strategic plan for the next 2 years.
- 2.1.4 **CCET** – Paul stated he has been working with the Chamber’s education committee developing workshops and business outreach strategies to see what people are interested in to put together for an education series. The Port is in a major hiring process currently.

CCET has been looking at business retention and expansion and doing more outreach/recruitment with businesses during the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of this year. CCET is partnering with CZ Trail to fund completion of the interpretive signage project. They have applied for a grant from Travel Oregon for Bikeups/Ride with GPS/ repair station, signages, etc. for a launch point for biking on CZ Trail. CCET applied for two grants about competitiveness and recovery, one is for a beautification project in partnership with Vernonia. CCET also supported the application for a Scappoose centennial mural. CCET has been working with businesses interested in relocating into the County and expand their business in the County, and other projects, grants, and undertakings supporting businesses, business expansion, and new businesses in the County. They are also working on using the Employment Department database to create profiles of sectors within the County which can be used to do better analysis of business/geographic clusters to help assist with business challenges and create advantages.

CCET has a strategic planning session coming up to set priorities and is rebranding and redeveloping website which will roll out early May. CCET is also working on developing a small business resource center for the County that is based and staffed out of the County.

Jeannet asked who is supporting CCET on broadband, and should EDC support CCET? Paul stated that this is a great question, and this is an important issue regarding network speed, reliability, connectivity, especially lately. Col Pac has a broadband taskforce working on this, and there is money in the ARP for this as well.

- 2.2 Scappoose 100 Event Update –Mike stated that the Committee has been meeting since fall, and is very well attended. There will be six bands for the event, cornhole, a parade, 5k/10k, doggie run, history displays, kids activities at Heritage Park, a classic car show, the Elks are running a beer garden, sponsorships are in the works and there has been a great response/support from the business community, including the Port and CRPUD.

Susie wants the Committee to let businesses know that there will be a lot of people coming through the City, especially with the 5k/10k event, and if you know anyone that might want to sponsor, please let her know.

Mike stated that this event will help the whole South County area. Jeff asked the Committee for a sponsorship commitment as the group will not meet again until July. Brian asked about the budget. Alex responded that there is some money left. Brian asked for staff’s recommendation. Alex replied her recommendation was to spend the remaining \$5,000 on the event. Susie motioned for EDC to allocate \$5,000 sponsorship to the 100-year event. Jeannet second. The motion passed unanimously. Jeff stated the sponsorship benefits and asked what the Committee would like to sponsor and do with their booth. Answers were not forthcoming.



**2.3 EDC Member Application to CCET Board** – Alex stated that there was discussion last year, and that EDC wanted the Chair or a selected member to apply as a board member to CCET and stated that the Committee is a member of CCET. Brian asked if there are vacancies on the board. Paul stated that the board is full, but four positions are up for tri-yearly renewal this year. There is one applicant from a long-time sponsor, and a CEO is now interested in joining the board. It was stated that the City of Scappoose currently sits on the board. Brian asked if when decisions are made, when does the term start. Paul stated immediately. Brian asked the members if they felt that having the City of Scappoose on board is sufficient, or if the Committee needs to seek more direct involvement. Jeannet stated that there are no seats available, that Paul is doing a great job Liaising, but that the Committee could ask. Brian stated that this should be revisited in 6-9 months as we are late in the cycle. One member wanted to clarify that the purpose is to get communication from CCET. Mike stated that is correct, and that Paul, the new CCET Liaison doing a great job of getting EDC info. The agenda item was tabled.

### **3. Announcements and Next Meetings**

Isaac stated City Council Goal 6b. to promote and support small local business and stated that the City would like the Committees help developing Newsletter spots for this purpose. Jeannet asked if Facebook would work for this. Paul asked what the purpose is. Alex stated that it is mostly to highlight the business, but the purpose could evolve as the topic is approached. Paul stated that the Chamber does some of this and McMinnville is a good resource for this to. Paul stated that he could help collect examples. Alex stated she will take the information. Brian asked if a sample could be drafted by the City returned for feedback.

### **4. Announcements and Next Meetings**

Next Meetings

- July 15, 2021

**Meeting Adjourned at 1:13 pm.**

For questions about these minutes, contact Isaac Butman, 503.543.7184, [ibutman@cityofscappoose.org](mailto:ibutman@cityofscappoose.org)

The EDC conducts its meetings in an ADA accessible room. If special accommodations are needed, please contact City Recorder Susan Reeves at 503.543.7146, ext. 224 TTY 503.378.5938