



Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes

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

October 20, 2022 12:00– 1:30 pm

Attendees: Chair Len Waggoner, Vice Chair Brian Rosenthal, George Hafeman, Christine Turner, Jeff Weiss, Casey Garrett, Paul Vogel Michael Sykes, Heidi Ralls, Nancy Ward, Isaac Butman, N.J. Johnson, Paul Fidrych

Absent:

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:05 PM by Chair Len Waggoner.

1.1 Meeting Agenda

Christine made a motion to approve the October 20, 2022 meeting Agenda. Vice Chair Brian Rosenthal seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

1.2 Meeting Minutes

The minutes for the July 21, 2022 meeting will be approved at the next meeting.

1.3 Citizen Communication

No public comment was submitted.

Chair Len Waggoner stated that he has been involved in Scappoose leadership for a long time and would like to step down as Chair of the Economic Development Committee. After revoking his role as Chair, Len nominated Christine Turner for the position of Chair. Vice Chair Brian Rosenthal seconded. The motion passed unanimously and Christine Turner assumed the role of Chair.

2. Updates

2.1 City

Isaac asked if the Committee wanted to talk about the changes to the Bylaws. Chair Christine Turner asked the Committee what the group thought about meeting frequency. Len stated that he thinks meetings need to be monthly. Jeff W. stated that if there are projects then meeting monthly seemed reasonable.

Vice Chair Brian Rosenthal stated that part of what seems to be missing from the group is direction. Chair Christine Turner stated that the committee need more direction. Isaac stated that in the bylaws the Chair's biannual reports to council and associated work sessions with Council should help with that. He further stated that Staff has or will schedule time before Council in the next few months, and that in terms of the report, the Chair should begin drafting that because Council will want that by mid to late November.

Chair Christine Turner made a comment that it would be good to have a more engaged Council liaison.

2.2 CET: Paul V. gave an update. CRPUD was recognized as one of the top places to work for in the County. CET has had five site visits in the last 60 days, all but one were manufacturing



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companies. CET is working with four businesses on expansion, and Paul Fidrych brought one of a few businesses looking to locate regionally. The Destination Ready report has been released, and there will be a meeting in a week or two to prioritize outdoor activities for grant funding. The program also assists with grant writing. The Small Business Incubator funding at OMIC has moved forward and is one meeting away from approval for design. OMIC held manufacturing day last week and hosted around 500 students. There is an agricultural packaging business that is looking at the Rainier area.

2.3 County: Casey gave an update. Facilities renovations are moving forward and are a big focus right now at the County. Ground was just broken on the health clinic, and the entire bottom floor of the Annex is under construction. The county is on the cusp of moving into contracting for the renovation of the John Gumm Building. The Columbia County Museum was endorsed by the Cultural Coalition of Oregon and will be recommending a \$400,000 grant for the John Gumm space. The County was awarded a grant for a trailhead at the Vernonia end of the Crown Z Trail. Casey stated he is also putting together a proposal for the City to add interpretive signage along the City's portion of the Crown Z.

2.4 CRPUD: Heidi stated that they are getting close to installation of the charging stations by the Library here in Scappoose. The PUD started work installing street light poles around the Airpark Subdivision's new road.

2.5 Library: Movies in the Park now draws 100's of people a night, it is now a major event, and costs around \$6,000, and the Library is very thankful for the support of the CRPUD and other partners. The Library is helping with a study that will look at the impact of walking on health. This winter the Library will be partnering with Portland State University to host classes on GIS mapping. 596 kids participated in summer reading.

2.6 Port: The port hired their contract attorney as a staff attorney, which has been quite helpful in terms of being able to be effective. The Port is looking to hire more staff and is now looking at rehabilitating the existing space to accommodate more staff. The State of the Port meeting last week detailed the current projects list, and followed by a talk from Next Renewables, about where the project was going.

3. Announcements and Next Meetings

Chair Christine Turner asked Isaac to give an update on Adventure Fest. Isaac stated that the event was well attended by the community. The Run grew from last year, the fun zone, which held the activities was busy all day, and the music seemed like it went over well with the Community. Council is looking to host another event next year but has not made any decisions yet. This will go back before Council in the next month or so.

Paul F. commented that the Adventure Festival was a good event and a lot of people came out to run, play, and socialize. One improvement that could be made is to select a brand that matches the interests and character of Scappoose. The imagery of the promotion focused a lot on kayaking and other nature-related activities and the actual event didn't really have that. Several agreed with Paul F.

Next meetings:



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- November 17, 2022
- December 15, 2022

4. Meeting Adjourned at 1.11 pm.

For questions about these minutes, contact N.J. Johnson at 503.543.7184 or email njohnson@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