

**CITY OF OREGON CITY  
CITY COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES**

**July 12, 2011**

1. [Convene Work Session of July 12, 2011, and Roll Call](#)

Mayor Neeley called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.

**Roll Call:** Mayor Doug Neeley; Commissioner Betty Mumm; Commissioner James Nicita; Commissioner Rocky Smith, Jr.; and Commissioner Kathy Roth.

**Staff Present:** City Manager David Frasher; Police Chief & Public Safety Director Mike Conrad; City Engineer & Public Works Director Nancy Kraushaar; Community Development Director Tony Konkol; Community Services Director Scott Archer; Finance Director David Wimmer; City Recorder Nancy Ide; Human Resources Director Jim Loeffler; and Library Director Maureen Cole.

2. [Future Agenda Items](#)

No future agenda items were suggested.

3. [Discussion Items](#)

a. [Commission's Use of Electronic Devices During Meetings Mayor Doug Neeley](#)

Mayor Neeley said there had been concern expressed about use of electronic equipment, such as conference calls and use of laptops during meetings. There was a copy of a resolution given to the Commission addressing these issues.

David Frasher, City Manager, stated the Commission recently adopted a set of rules that restricted the use of electronic devices except what was on the Commission's monitors at the dais.

Nancy Ide, City Recorder, said it was a perception issue. If the Commission brought extra information relevant to a meeting, it should be disclosed. When the Commission heard a quasi-judicial matter it was limited to the record and use of electronic devices could present a problem in those circumstances.

b. [Oregon City Tourism Council, Discussion and Appointment of Liaison Mayor Doug Neeley](#)

Commissioner Smith was the liaison to the Oregon City Tourism Council. He gave a presentation on the history of the Tourism Council, reported on community meetings that had been taking place, and the creation of the Heritage Sites Committee. He discussed the draft proposal of the structure for the Tourism Council and how the members would work together to spend the Tourism Action Plan (TAP) money. This was an ad hoc committee, and he thought it should remain that way.

Thelma Haggenmiller of Slow Poke Tours encouraged the Commission not to create bylaws for the Tourism Council. She helped start a tourism team with the Chamber where many people volunteered because there was no structure and she thought it should be a model to recreate.

Commissioner Smith thought the Tourism Council would be open to participation from those who might not live or work in Oregon City, but were directly tied to Oregon City's tourism.

Ms. Haggenmiller thought they should involve people who saw value to helping promote what Oregon City had to offer.

Commissioner Smith clarified the TAP money would only be spent on something that the whole committee agreed on.

Dan Fowler, resident of Oregon City, thanked Commissioner Smith for his work. He stated the best things came out of a natural progression and thought the focus of the Tourism Council should be the work and what was needed by consensus.

Alice Norris, resident of Oregon City, had helped put together the first Oregon City Tourism Council. At that time they deliberately did not want it to be an arm of government because they wanted it to be accessible to a diverse group. She gave advice on what kinds of projects the County's Tourism Development Council (TDC) looked for in granting the TAP funding.

William Gifford, resident of Oregon City, said tourism was made up of historic, recreational, artistic, and retail attractions. He suggested the reason for recreating the Tourism Council was to generate funds that in turn would enable them to sustain and protect their assets for future generations.

Karin Morey, resident of Oregon City, stated there was a need for creation of tourism documentation for Oregon City, such as walking maps and postcards.

Michele Beneville explained how the TAP funding worked and how the projects were determined.

Commissioner Smith said the next step was to attend the upcoming TDC meeting on August 15.

c. [Concept Plan and Community Vision discussion](#)

Tony Konkol, Community Development Director, recommended getting the South End Concept Plan done and completing other projects in the Comp Plan that had not been done yet and then do a visioning process with a review and update of the Comp Plan.

Commissioner Nicita saw this proceeding in steps and doing a community visioning process for the Blue Heron site now. He proposed commencing immediately with the Blue Heron visioning.

Mr. Konkol said the Comp Plan stated if the Blue Heron site ever changed use, a master plan would be required on the site.

There was discussion regarding the pros and cons of doing the South End Concept Plan and Blue Heron visioning at the same time.

Mr. Frasher suggested a scaled down version of the visioning process for Blue Heron and to do

a phase 1 to identify the core values and once a property owner emerged to do a phase 2.

Mayor Neeley suggested requesting a contribution from Urban Renewal for the visioning for Blue Heron. Mr. Frasher would put it on the next Urban Renewal agenda.

Mr. Konkol would look at funding sources and the scope of work for Blue Heron.

William Gifford, resident of Oregon City, said the City of Beaverton's visioning process got less than 5% of their population to participate. He was concerned about spreading volunteers too thin. Oregon City had done an enormous amount and was a very participatory government. He did not think they were so far off the track that they needed to start over again. He did not want to model anything from Beaverton.

Mr. Frasher thought if they had 200-300 on a consistent basis that would be a great turnout. This was an important site for Oregon and the nation and needed to be done the right way.

Dan Fowler, resident of Oregon City, thought there should be a factual analysis of the site and how it matched with ODOT and Tri-Met components along with the visioning. They should have guiding principles, but it should not be too specific and he cautioned the Commission to be careful that citizens realized it was a conceptual idea.

#### 4. City Manager's Report

Mr. Frasher reported on an upcoming staff summit on the Ermatinger House and a possible funding application for the house. He also discussed the process for appointment of a new Economic Development Manager.

Mayor Neeley suggested a future agenda item to discuss the 2013 Historic Trails event and the opening of the End of the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center for the event.

Commissioner Nicita suggested a future agenda item on the current Housing Ordinance. Mr. Frasher suggested it be a one-on-one discussion with staff instead of putting it on a Work Session.

Commissioner Roth announced a Rolling Car Show on Saturday's downtown.

Nancy Kraushaar, City Engineer and Public Works Director, stated there would be a Main Street Project Open House on July 14. An analysis had been done on the alleys along the Arch Bridge regarding whether or not they should remain open or closed, and the consultant recommended they be closed.

Scott Archer, Community Services Director, said two informational meetings were scheduled for July 26 and 27 to discuss the downtown parking plan implementation. The Carnegie Spray Park was almost complete and would open by the end of the week.

Commissioner Nicita discussed his ideas for the Economic Development Manager position. He wanted someone who was not only responsible for economic development, but also included citizen participation and community and architectural design.

Mr. Frasher thought they should focus on hiring a talented economic development person. Urban design and focusing on the unique features of the City could be discussed in the Commission's goal

setting.

Commissioner Roth stated there needed to be barriers around a gas meter on 7th near the elevator.

5. **Adjournment**

Mayor Neeley adjourned the meeting at 10:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Nancy Ide, City Recorder