



The Friday Update

Bringing you a summary of weekly news from City Hall

April 23, 1999

CITY OF COOS BAY

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LADY WASHINGTON IN PORT – Lady Washington, the Washington State Tallship Ambassador, is again visiting the Coos Bay Boardwalk. Lady Washington is proud to be working with the Coos Bay / North Bend Tourism and Convention Bureau during her stay. Lady Washington will be offering to the great people of Oregon's Bay Area opportunities aboard for educational programs and public sailing cruises. One-hour dockside education programs and three-hour public sails are available for scheduling between April 21st and May 3rd. Come said aboard the Tallship featured in the Paramount Production "Star Trek Generations," filmed as the "Original Enterprise." Also see beautiful Coos Bay from the decks of Lady Washington. Here's a tentative schedule:

DOCKSIDE TOURS Monday-Fridays, 4-6 p.m.
April 24th and 25th (Sat. and Sun.) 10 a.m. 1 p.m.

SUNSET SAILS April 23rd and 30th, 5-8 p.m.

PUBLIC SAILS April 24th and 25th, 2-5 p.m.
May 1st and 2nd, 2-5 p.m.

For information about educational programs or public sails, call 1-800-200-LADY. Ask for "Flagg," Grays Harbor Historical Seaport and Lady Washington Operations Director.

MINGUS PARK POOL HOUSE – At their April 20, 1999 meeting, the City Council approved award of the low bid to replace the POOL HOUSE at the Mingus Park pool to DLB Construction. There are several "alternates", or additions, to the basic bid which were approved only if sufficient funds are available once work on the basic bid is completed. These alternates include lockers, bleacher seating, a sign for the new building, and an exterior clock for the north side of the new building. The architect for the project, Richard Turi, Architecture and Planning, strongly recommended that work on the alternate items be postponed until it was clear that funds would be sufficient to complete all work on the basic bid. The Council discussed the scheduling for the construction work at length, establishing a June 21, 1999 start date with completion anticipated by mid-November. The Council's unanimous approval action also included direction to city staff to investigate the feasibility of subsidizing a transportation arrangement to the North Bend pool during the summer months.

CITY BUDGET MEETINGS – The Coos Bay Urban Renewal Agency and the first City of Coos Bay budget meetings were held April 22nd at 7 p.m. at 390 South 2nd Street. The Agency and City heard budget messages from Budget Officer Bill Grile, reviewed and approved for adoption the Urban Renewal Agency budget; held a public hearing on the use of State Revenue Sharing Funds; and reviewed general fund budgets up to page 25 of the budget. The next budget meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 27th at 7 p.m. The meetings are open to the public and are also aired on Channel 14.

DOWNTOWN PARKING REVIEWED – Numerous downtown business owners and employers spoke at the City Council's April 20, 1999 public hearing to review the current downtown parking plan. There were criticisms and a few kudos for the current plan, with a consensus that parking arrangements are not yet at a point that pleases everyone. The Council referred the hearing comments to the Parking Committee, which will meet on Monday, April 26, 1999 at City Hall. At that meeting, the Parking Committee will develop recommendations for the Council's consideration. The Council will receive those recommendations at the Council's May 4, 1999 meeting.

VIEWSHEDS ESTABLISHED – The City Council has approved City Ordinance No. 271 which spells out the City's rationale and ability to establish VIEW SHEDS within the city. A viewshed is "a street, sidewalk, and public right-of-way which has been subject to urban or affected by redevelopment activity pursuant to an urban renewal plan and designated as a viewshed by the Coos Bay City Council." VIEW SHEDS are designated "to eliminate urban blight and thereby encourage economic redevelopment...[and] establish regulations for private and business activity in and along streets, sidewalks and public rights-of-way...." The first viewshed established under this new ordinance is the Empire Area Viewshed, encompassing the recently completed Streetscape area along Newmark Avenue.

ANDERSON AVENUE TRAFFIC FLOW – The City Council approved the concept of two-way traffic on Anderson Avenue between Bayshore Avenue and Fourth Street at their April 6, 1999 meeting. Last Tuesday, the Council approved the following specific measures to implement that concept:

- Leave Anderson a one-way street from South 4th Street to South 2nd Street
- Make Anderson a two way street from Bayshore to South 2nd Street. Westbound traffic would be directed to turn right onto 2nd Street. An island would be placed at this intersection similar to the one now in place at Anderson and 4th Street.
- Leave South 3rd Street entering Anderson a one-way street.
- Leave South 2nd Street between Penny's and the Art Museum a two-way street.

An agreement with the state Department of Transportation will have to be finalized before work to accomplish these changes can begin. That agreement is working its way through the maze within ODOT and should be ready for City Council approval within the next two to three weeks.

FIREFIGHTERS RAISE MONEY FOR BURN FOUNDATION – Coos Bay Firefighters Matt Fare, Kelly Niles, Jay Ringo and Chuck Hanners recently participated in the 1999 Wal-Mart Bowling Challenge sponsored by the Bay Area Jaycees. Proceeds from this tournament benefit the Northwest Burn Foundation. The tournament, held at the Coquille Bowling alley last weekend, raised approximately \$1,800 for the burn foundation.

CPA CHAPTER ELECTS OFFICERS – City Finance Director Janell K. Howard was recently elected as secretary-treasurer of the South Coast Chapter, Oregon Society of Certified Public Accountants. The 1999-2000 election results also include Clare D. Grove, president; and Larry A. Reibert, president-elect.

WATER BOARD ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND BUDGET COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS – Officers were elected to the Board at the Coos Bay-North Bend Water Board's April 14th meeting. Officers include Mike Helfrich, chair; Dick Vigue, Vice-Chair; Arnie Roblan, Secretary; and Greg Solarz, member. The Water Board has three positions open on their budget committee and having received only one letter of interest to serve on the committee, the Board appointed the one applicant, Renee Nelson of Coos Bay. The Board has extended the deadline for accepting letters of interest.

ART MUSEUM FLEA MARKET & ANTIQUES ROAD SHOW – The Coos Art Museum will be holding a fund raiser on May 8th beginning at 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Admission is \$1.50 for adults, under 12 free. The event will feature art dealers – on-the-spot appraisals (3 items for \$5) – food and drink on sale – antiques – collectibles – garage sale treasures – recycled art – vintage clothing – old tools – plants – and much more! For information please call the museum at 267-3901.

NEW CARISSA EXHIBIT PLANNED – The Coos Art Museum is planning a photography exhibit featuring the wreck of the New Carissa. The exhibit will open with a public reception at the museum on Friday, July 9th from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. in conjunction with the 6th annual Maritime art exhibit. The exhibit will continue through Saturday, September 11th.

KOREN FARE 5 YEAR ANNIVERSARY – 9-1-1 Dispatcher Koren Fare celebrates her 5th year anniversary with the City of Coos Bay on April 25, 1999. Koren has been a valuable asset to the North Coos County 9-1-1 Dispatch Center and the Coos Bay Police Department. Congratulations Koren.

NEW COOS BAY POLICE OFFICER – Officer Kevin Shaw recently joined the Coos Bay Police Department. Officer Shaw recently moved to Coos Bay from Myrtle Creek. Shaw had been attending Western Oregon University in Monmouth prior to his appointment with the Coos Bay Police Department.

OMI - EARTH DAY – The City's Wastewater contractor, OMI, celebrated Earth Day on Thursday, April 22nd, by planting two trees in Mingus Park. With the assistance of the City's Park's Division, a White Dogwood tree and a Japanese Flowering Cherry tree will grow along the west edge of Mingus Lake. OMI is a community-minded company and has participated in many community oriented projects. The City of Coos Bay thanks OMI for their generous donation to the community's park system!