



The Friday Update

Bringing you a summary of weekly news from City Hall

December 14, 2001

CITY OF COOS BAY

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LOOKING TO VOLUNTEER IN YOUR COMMUNITY? - The City of Coos Bay has openings on the Budget committee and Planning Commission. The Budget Committee has three positions open, with two three-year terms and one to complete an unfulfilled term which will expire December 31, 2003. Applicants must be a resident of the City of Coos Bay and are appointed by the City Council. The Budget Committee is responsible for reviewing the proposed budget, and the meetings are held during the months of April and May in the evening. The Planning Commission has two positions open and are for four-year terms. Applicants must be a city resident for at least one year, but one member may reside outside the city limits if the person owns property within the city limits. The Commission meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month in the evening at city hall. The function of the Planning Commission is to act primarily as a comprehensive planning body and proposes policy and legislation to the City Council. Applications are available from the city manager's office or by calling 269-8912 during normal business hours and will be accepted through 5 p.m. December 21, 2001.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT PROGRAM REVIEW - On October 10, 2001 the City of Coos Bay Building Department received a program review as required by Oregon Revised Statute and Oregon Administrative Rules. The review team was comprised of three Building Codes Division staff, an Oregon Building Official Association member and the Douglas County Building Official. The review went well and some quotes from the final report stated: "it was obvious to the review team that you and your staff have a sincere interest in public safety and in providing good customer service and a quality program. Your local administrative ordinances have been used by Division staff as an example for other jurisdictions to use." Congratulations to all the Community Service staff for their efforts to provide a quality building inspection program!

DOWNTOWN RECRUITMENT TRAINING - Twenty-five local residents attended training on Thursday, December 6 with Mary Bosch from Marketek regarding how to recruit businesses to small downtowns. The training was a part of the Oregon Downtown Development Association services to Coos Bay to help us set new goals and direction for our Downtown. Attendees included city councilors, downtown property owners and business owners, city staff and folks interested in and committed to helping revitalize downtown Coos Bay. Four individuals attended from North Bend to help move forward their revitalization efforts, and two County Commissioners attended to gain knowledge that can be used by other cities in Coos County. The training was fast paced, and left the group with many ideas on how to move forward. Coos Bay attendees will be meeting again on January 11th, 8:00-9:30 am at the Coos Bay Library to set action plans. If you are interested in learning more about what happened, or you are also interested in helping with downtown recruitment/revitalization efforts, please contact Chris Coles, Coos Bay Downtown Association President at 269-4065, or contact Community Services at 269-8918.

SKATEBOARD PARK SUPPORTERS GET ORGANIZED! - Citizens from Coos Bay and North Bend have organized around the youth of our community and are moving forward with efforts to get a large skateboard park for our community. Plans are to make the park big enough to work for skateboarders, in-line skaters, scooters and bicyclists. Parents and youth from both cities are now meeting Monday nights, at 7 p.m., at the Coos Bay Fire Hall #2 in the Empire area to work on the park. Subcommittees are forming around fund raising and park design (including where it should be located). The Bay Area Bike Center in

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North Bend is sponsoring the first fund raiser which is the raffle of a BMX bicycle. Tickets are \$1.00 and the winning ticket will be drawn on December 24th. Make a trip to the Bay Area Bike Center while you are out Christmas shopping and buy a few raffle tickets. If you want to be part of the action, attend a Monday evening meeting or contact Robert Taylor at 266-9276 to find out how else you can help!

“ALISHANEE” MOVING FORWARD TO COUNCIL - On Tuesday evening the Planning Commission recommended approval for street vacations that would give the Confederated Tribes the additional property needed to build “Alishanee,” a 24-lane bowling alley and recreation facility. The streets proposed to be vacated are: the portion of North 7th Street between Myrtle Avenue and Kingwood Avenue and the portion of Myrtle Avenue between North 6th Street and North 7th Street. The proposed street vacations will now move forward to a public hearing before the City Council which will take place next Tuesday evening, December 18th at 7 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

MISSION TO REMODEL - In other action on Tuesday evening, the Planning Commission approved the site plan and architectural review which was required before the Bay Area Rescue Mission could begin remodeling their new location at the former Munnell & Sherill building at 1999 North 7th Street. In addition to remodeling the interior and exterior of the building, a fence will be built on three sides of the property, lighting will be installed on the exterior of the building and additional landscaping will be planted. The Planning Commission’s decision is subject to appeal.

TOYS FOR TOTS DRIVE IN FULL SWING - The Toys For Tots drive is in full swing and will continue until Wednesday, November 19th. Please bring in your new, unwrapped toys to the downtown Coos Bay Fire Station located at 150 South 4th Street. If you have any questions please call the Fire Department at 269-1191.

CITY ANNIVERSARY RECOGNIZED - Congratulations go out this month to Fire Department Lieutenant Dan McAvoy. Dan celebrates his 10th anniversary with the City of Coos Bay Fire Department.

NORTH COOS 9-1-1 UPDATE - The North Coos County 9-1-1 Communications Agency Board met on Thursday evening this week to discuss the status of the agency. Earlier this year 9-1-1 calls in the unincorporated area of Coos County previously served by the agency were transferred to the South County 9-1-1 agency located in Coquille. In addition to the unincorporated area the North Bend City Council elected to have 9-1-1 calls within the City of North Bend also to be routed to Coquille, ending a sixteen year agreement with the North Coos County 9-1-1 Communication Center in Coos Bay. The re-routing of 9-1-1 calls has resulted in the loss of approximately \$180,000 annually to the 9-1-1 Communications center located at Coos Bay City Hall. At issue is the Coos Bay 9-1-1 Communication center’s ability to continue the provision of essential services to the rural fire units in the North end of Coos County. Currently the Coos Bay center provides 9-1-1 communication services for the City of Coos Bay Police and Fire Departments, Coquille Tribal Police, Charleston Rural Fire, Greenacres Rural Fire, Sumner Rural Fire, Millington Rural Fire, Hauser Rural Fire, North Bay Rural Fire, Lakeside Rural Fire, Southwestern Oregon Community College Security, Bay Cities Ambulance, and Lower Umpqua Ambulance Service calls in the Lakeside area. Suggestions on future action will be taken up at a meeting to be set for early January 2002.

POLICE OFFICER RECRUITMENT UPDATE - Tentative offers of employment have been made to the three finalists for the vacant police officer positions in the department. Tentative starting dates for all three are January 1, 2002. The names will be released once an physical examinations are completed and the new members are brought on staff.