

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: October 21, 2016

Mayor's Ball

Tomorrow, Saturday, October 22nd, the Cottage Grove Armory will come alive and shine for the 1st Annual Mayor's Ball. This year the Mayor's Ball will serve as the kickoff for the campaign to raise funds for the renovation of the Armory. For those with tickets the event starts at 5:30 pm and will include performances by the Emerald City Jazz Kings and a keynote address by Brigadier General William Edwards.

Do You Know Where Your Ballot Is?

Lane County mailed the General Election ballots yesterday, Thursday, October 20th. All registered voters should receive their ballots today or this weekend. Lane County has reported that over 242,000 voters, a record number, have registered for the General Election. The ballot drop boxes have been opened and are available for ballots. The drop box in Cottage Grove is located in front of the Library/Community Center and will be available for ballot drop off until 8:00 pm on Election Day, November 8th.

Lane County Elections in partnership with the Oregon Secretary of State's Office is offering a new service for voters called BallotTrax. BallotTrax allows voters to sign up online to receive alert messages via text, phone or email. Registered voters who sign up for BallotTrax will receive messages when their ballot is mailed out, when it is accepted for counting and they will also receive reminders to return their ballots if they have not already done so. Voters can sign up at: www.lanecounty.org/elections by selecting the "Track Your Ballot Alerts" link. There is no additional cost to Lane County to offer this service. There is no charge to voters for this service, although text message charges may apply depending on the cell phone carrier.

Regional Local Government Managers

The regional local managers meeting was hosted in Cottage Grove this week. The City Manager conducted the meeting that was held in the newly remodeled Boots and Sandals Barn amid the collections from the Bohemia Mining Museum and the Historical Society. The managers had the opportunity to meet the new Director of Greater Eugene Inc., Ward Wimbish and Kim Thompson the new Rural Prosperity coordinator with in Lane the Lane County Economic Development Department. As a result much of the meeting discussion was centered around the exciting changes occurring in economic development in the region.

A special thank you is extended to Bruce and Faye Stewart and the volunteers from the Bohemia Mining Museum and Historical Society for the use of the space for the meeting. The managers were impressed and enjoyed seeing a glimpse into the history of Cottage Grove.

Beeper

The City Manager will be on KNND's Beeper Show on Monday, October 24th from 9:00 to 10:00 am.

Downtown Trick or Treating

On Monday, October 31st downtown Cottage Grove be bustling with every imaginable creature or character as the Chamber of Commerce, Cottage Grove Main Street and the City sponsor the annual Main Street Trick or Treating. This year there will be games, contests and activities for all the little ghosts and goblins. There will even be some for the bigger ghouls too. Main Street between 9th and 5th Streets will be closed at 1:30 pm to set up the activities. The actual fun and excitement will be from 3:00 to 5:00 pm. Anyone interested in participating in a booth downtown to pass out treats should contact the Chamber of Commerce.

Be sure to stop by City Hall and see the City Employee pumpkin decorating contest. City employees will be bringing the creations in before 9:00 am and the Mayor and City Council will be judging them at noon. The City Manager will be awarding the Halloween prizes that afternoon prior to the Trick or Treating.

The Big Mix

On Thursday, October 27th the Cottage Grove Community Development Corporation and Chamber of Commerce are joining with Fertilab to hold The Big Mix from 6:30 to 9:00 pm at the Cottage Grove Armory. The Big Mix will be a landmark networking event for entrepreneurs, business leaders and anyone with a dream. The connections will help grow and accelerate new businesses in Cottage Grove. Anyone interested can come and help write the next chapter of entrepreneurship in Cottage Grove. Please visit www.bit.ly/bigmix2016 to register for this free event.

Middlefield Golf Course again Highlighted in Trade Publication

Middlefield Golf Course Superintendent, Kris Ammerman will again be published in the November, 2016 issue of the trade magazine, "*Golf Course Management*". Kris' article highlights Middlefield's development and use of treated wastewater effluent for irrigation purposes and recently expanded recreation opportunities, which include soccer golf and disc golf to help "grow" the game. Congratulations to Kris on this noteworthy achievement.

Urban Forestry Committee

On Monday of this week, Public Works Director, Jan Wellman attended the monthly meeting of the City's Urban Forestry Committee (UFC). The Urban Forestry Committee advises the City Council and staff on all matters relating to trees within the City. At this month's meeting, topics of discussion included current vacancies on the Committee and efforts to fill those vacant positions, the unanimous election of Jim Brownson as Chair of the UFC, preparation of the "Tree City USA" application due in December of this year, the upcoming "No Ivy Day" event scheduled for October 29th in Silk Creek Park, sponsored by the Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council, and a planned tour of the North Regional Park to evaluate the condition of many dead and dying trees in the Park. If anyone has an interest in serving on the Urban Forestry Committee, contact Teresa Cowan at (541) 942-1185 or volunteers@cottagegrove.org for more information.

Cross Connection Certification Class

On Friday of this week, Utilities Supervisor, Tony Kirk and Leadman, Mike O'Reilly attended a cross connection certification class at Clackamas Community College in Oregon City. This class

enables our utilities staff to maintain their certification as a cross connection specialist. A cross connection is a point in a plumbing system where the potable water supply is connected to a non-potable source. Briefly, a cross connection exists whenever the drinking water system is, or could be, connected to any non-potable source, such as an alternate water source (a well) or an underground irrigation system, swimming pool, hot tub, etc., located on the property. Since 2002, Oregon Administrative Rules and City Code require all new construction to have a backflow device behind the meter. For older structures, our certified cross connection staff randomly inspects neighborhoods for potential cross connection situations. If one is discovered, the property owner is required to install a backflow device behind the meter and have it inspected for proper operation once a year.

North Regional Park Trees

On Thursday of this week, Fleet and Facilities Manager, Russ Kaleese, Maintenance Workers, Alissa Allen and Chad Reel, Urban Forestry Committee members, Susan Johnson and Jim Kness, and Public Works Director, Jan Wellman went on a field trip to look at the trees in North Regional Park that are dead or dying. This is a phenomenon that is plaguing many stands of trees throughout this general area. The trees appear to be dying from either drought conditions or beetle infestation. One of the dead trees was cut down so it could be observed from trunk to tip. Bark was removed from sections of the tree to see if insects were present. The trees appear to be dying from the top down and most of the dead/dying trees are located around the edges of the tree stands. Trees on the edge of the stand receive more sunlight and are more prone to be affected by drought. Once drought conditions weaken the tree, it makes it easier for insects to move in because the tree lacks the ability to ward-off infestation. It was decided that no immediate action would be taken. Instead, City staff will continue to monitor the condition of the trees until a management strategy can be developed.

STEAM at the Library a Huge Success

This week over 25 youth participated in the STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math) interactive workshop. The youth explored physics and designed and built works of art that could fly. STEAM at the library happens every month on the 3rd Wednesday from 2:30 to 4:00 pm.

Behind the Pages Book Club for Kids

On Saturday, October 22nd from 2:30 to 3:30 pm, Behind the Pages, the book club for 6th – 8th grade age youth will be meeting. This month the book is "Matched" by Ally Condie. Youth are encouraged to come even if they have not already read the book.

Friends of the Library Appreciation Week

This week was national Friends of the Library Appreciation Week and a great time to stop by the Cottage Grove Public Library to show your support for our "Friends" organization. Applications for membership in the Friends group are available and we encourage everyone to join this group as a great way to support our Library. Our Friends group now has a permanent book sale area in the library where you can purchase awesome books and help support activities and programs of the library.

Friends of the Library Book Sale

Saturday, October 22nd from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm, the Friends of the Library will be holding a book sale. Stop by to support the Friends of the Cottage Grove Public Library and get some great deals on new and used books.

Book Club for Adults

The Cottage Grove Public Library Book Club for Adults meets next on Monday, October 24th from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. This month the book is "Glass Castle", by Jeanette Well. Please stop by and enjoy the book club fun.

Public Hearing Scheduled

City Council will consider three applications to consolidate the M-1 & M-2 Industrial Zones into one M Industrial Zone at a public hearing on November 28, 2016, at 7:00 pm. The amendment will require that the Comprehensive Land Use Diagram, the Zoning Map, and the Development Code Text be amended. All three applications will be considered at the same public hearing. The Planning Commission held a public hearing on the matter on October 19th and recommended that Council approve the applications. The staff reports, public hearing minutes and proposed ordinance will be provided with the agenda prior to the public hearing. Any questions should be directed to the Community Development Department.

Community Development Staff Speaks to High School Class

The Community Development Director, Howard Schesser and the City Planner, Amanda Ferguson spoke to Ricardo Florez's Business and Management Class at Cottage Grove High School about development in the City. Discussion covered short and long range planning, state requirements, and obtaining an occupancy permit. They also discussed the difference of the development process for small entrepreneurs starting a business versus a large business development.

Quote of the Week

"When opportunity presents itself, don't be afraid to go after it."

~Eddie Kennison~