

Morrow County Citizens Economic Development Task Force

Meeting Notes for June 5, 2018

Lexington Town Hall

Lexington, Oregon

Attendees: Darrell Green, Karen Pettigrew, Edie Ball, Judy Moore, Aaron Palmquist, Carla McLane, Stephanie Loving, Melissa Lindsay, Sheryll Bates, Shambra Cooper and Felicia.

The meeting started at 9:05 a.m. Meeting minutes for May 1, 2018, were reviewed and approved. The group name and schedule got changed. Project Management Team group meetings in between main meetings.

Federal Actions Update:

B2H - The Forest Service has released their record of decision.

Columbia River Regional Master Plan - County made comments on the map that was released. Another comment period will be later this month.

Elk Resiliency Plan - Nothing new to note.

Housing:

Statewide Housing Plan - AOC needs to get the word out to counties about meetings.

Carla provided handout about Population Change. Discussion about population data. Discussion about Accessory Dwelling Units and whether cities and county should opt in and make rules to allow it (Boardman has to as the population is over 2500).

Buildable Lands Inventory - Angelo Planning Group, will start working with them on a Final Scope of Work. Still looking at a December completion.

Carla provided a copy Request for Assistance application for Oregon Housing Planning Project grant through DLCD, which has to be submitted by June 15, 2018. The request would be for approximately \$15,000. Group was in support of submittal.

Discussion about the potential for enticing a developer to come to the county and build houses in each of the cities with a low or no interest loan, if it were even a possibility and how that might look.

Opportunities for meetings of interested parties (real estate, developers, property owners, cities, etc.)

More discussion at a Project Management Team meeting between cities and county.

Tourism:

Heritage Trail - Shambra Cooper will pick up the Heritage Trail and get that kicked off and rolling again. A small management team is needed with volunteers. Need to engage the Corp (new real estate person at Corp).

Scenic Byway- Nothing new.

Century Bikeway - Has been raised from 50 to 75 participants. Discussion about need for a rest area along the way. Century Bikeway needs added to TSP.

Parks Master Plan - At Planning Commission and anticipate that work will resume at June 26, 2018 PC meeting. Public Comment has driven updates to the map. After PC it will go back to the committee with proposed changes will be incorporated then on to BOC for approval.

Agritourism: Stephanie provided a handout. Moving forward with brochure. Planning is working to make sure everyone is properly permitted.

Roundtable:

Sheryll- New vet from La Grande coming to Morrow County. Closing on duplex property. Rehab program is going well. New Business Enhancement matching grant available.

Darrell Green – Karen Wolf is retiring. Will be releasing Gilliam Bisbee building soon.

Judy Moore –CEDS presentation at August meeting. Informed the group about a seminar on May 2, 2018 on aging water infrastructure. Ongoing work with cities on housing projects.

Felicia Cavan – Water tower in Lexington is painted and updated. Still no mayor.

Karen Pettigrew – Tom in finance is retiring. Goose Roundup from ODFW at Boardman Marina coming up. CREZ did two, five-year exemptions (Three Mile & MCGG). Block grant update. Looking for new Chamber Director. Sage Center is looking for new director also.

Carla McLane – Morrow County Fair is August 15-19. Planner's Network Meeting is June 19 and 20. Resigned from CREZ and Greg Sweek is a nominee to take over. There is currently a lot of activity in the Morrow County Planning Department with various levels of projects including several energy projects and the Green Energy Corridor.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held August 7, 2018 in Irrigon at City Hall

Agenda Build: CEDS, Federal Actions, Housing as Economic Development and Tourism Opportunities.

Adjourned at 11:46 a.m.