

Minutes of the  
**CANNON BEACH CITY COUNCIL**  
**WORK SESSION**  
Tuesday, October 13, 2009  
Council Chambers

Present: Mayor Mike Morgan; Councilors Nancy Giasson, Melissa Cadwallader and Wendy Higgins

Excused: Council President Sam Steidel

Staff: City Manager Rich Mays, City Planner Rainmar Bartl, Public Works Director Mark See and Administrative Assistant Brandy Brien

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Morgan called the work session to order at 5:17 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS

**(1) Funding for the Arts Update**

Mays provided the Council with an update regarding the potential funding of the arts through an increase in lodging tax. He noted that lodging tax increase has been tracked for 18 years. Mays also noted that he and City Attorney Tammy Herdener are reviewed the legal ramifications that must be further researched prior to moving forward with the increase.

Council discussed the potential funding for the arts. Giasson distributed and reviewed a list of ideas for a potential criteria to consider and establish to maintain a system for the potential funding of the arts.

Council further discussed with staff the valid use of monies if the lodging tax was increased to fund the arts and a criteria to follow if the funding was established.

Higgins suggested that following Herdener and Mays research of the laws that a task force be assembled composed of representatives from all the different entities of community to monitor and increase tourism. Mays concurred and suggested that the Cannon Beach Business Associates may be a possibility to participate with a task force. Morgan stated that he has discussed with Val Ryan, business owner and Jeff Jewel, Chamber Director the idea to promote arts events to increase tourism.

Giasson added that one criterion should be a requirement that the organization's mission statement include "promoting the arts". Higgins concurred and noted that it also be required that they prove their support of the arts. Cadwallader noted that a requirement be a marketing plan and the funding be similar to the community grants year to year program, Giasson confirmed.

Morgan suggested that the funding be expedited; other members of the Council disagreed.

Morgan noted that generally public testimony is not permitted during work sessions, however he asked if the audience wished to make comments.

Frank Swedenborg, The Waves Motel, motel owner, P.O. Box 3, Cannon Beach, OR, reviewed his submitted written testimony and noted that he supports the arts, however, is concerned with regard to the possible increase in the lodging tax. He asked that consideration to other factions of the City visitors be considered to support the services that are provided for our economic base.

Swedenborg proposed a food and beverage tax, noting that he understands that an increase to the lodging fee would be less complex, however, state law provides that the majority of the increase must be spent on promoting tourism. If a food and beverage tax was implemented, the monies generated by a food and beverage tax could provide funding to many other programs that do not fall under the guidelines set forth in the lodging tax bill.

Swedenborg thanked Council.

Linda Beck-Sweeney, Cannon Beach Property Management, property manager, agrees with statements made by Swedenborg, and noted that, since lodging is booked a year in advance, if Council does proceed with increasing the lodging tax, she asked that it not transpire until the next fiscal year to allow the lodging industry adequate time to notify their guests.

Jim McDonald, Tolovana Inn, property manager, also agreed with Swedenborg, and urged the Council to carefully consider the effects to the lodging industry of the potential increase to the lodging tax.

## **(2) Clatsop County Household Hazardous Waste Plan**

See reviewed his staff report and asked Laura Leebrick, representing the Clatsop County Household Hazardous Waste (CC-HHW) Committee, to begin her presentation to the Council.

Leebrick thanked See for his participation on the HHW Advisory Committee and she presented the program to the Council. She noted that the Deschutes County HHW facility is similar to the facility proposed for Clatsop County.

Leebrick reviewed that the funding source for this proposal is a new surcharge on the tipping fee at the transfer station. This will ensure that everyone generating garbage will help in funding the new facility.

Leebrick also noted that in April the DEQ approved the plan and next steps are for WOW to seek the approval and support of the committees work to date, and ask that the Council direct staff to work with the County on a memorandum of agreement, appoint a representative to the SWAC committee to reconvene. The tip fee would go into effect on July 1, 2010 and the goal is to have a signed agreement in place prior to that time. Staff and Council agreed to move forward with the plan.

## **(3) Results of the Commercial Recycling Survey**

See summarized his staff report and reviewed that the commercial recycling survey results were that there was not enough of a response to warrant a commercial recycling program.

Council reviewed the survey results and their options with WOW Representative Laura Leebrick and concurred to suspend the issue.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **(4) Little Pompey Wetlands Restoration Project**

Bartl reviewed his staff report, noting that the City was denied by the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) for the grant to proceed with the Little Pompey Wetlands Restoration Project. He reviewed two options for proceeding with the project. The first option is to work with OWEB staff to refine the application and resubmit it to OWEB. The next realistic OWEB application deadline is in the spring of 2010. The second option is to modify the elements of the project. A modified project would consist of several phases. The first phase would be the installation of a new tidegate and perhaps some deepening of the channel from the "Oxbow" to the tidegate. The second phase would consist of the monitoring of the effect of the new tidegate on the morphology of Little Pompey, as well as on-going water quality monitoring of storm water entering Little Pompey wetland. A third phase, consisting of Little Pompey wetland channel deepening and water quality improvements, would be

designed based on the results of the monitoring program.

Bartl also noted that since his staff report, the City's grant writer, Mary Holbert, indicated that she believes that a representative of US Fish and Wildlife may be able to assist in refining the storm water treatment component of the project, with an eye to reapplying to OWEB.

The general consensus of the Council was to consider implementing the phased project option.

**(5) Status of Council Priorities**

There were no comments.

**(6) Good of the Order / Public Comment**

There were no comments.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The work session was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

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Brandy Brien, Administrative Assistant

ATTEST:

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Mike Morgan, Mayor