

VILLAGES AT MT. HOOD  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Minutes

September 7, 2010

Chair Doug Saldivar called the September 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Directors of the Villages at Mt. Hood to order at 4:02 pm at the Hoodland Fire District meeting room, 69634 E. Hwy 26, Welches, OR.

Attendance:

- ❖ Committee Members Present: Pat Buckley, Shirley Dueber, Bob Reeves, Doug Saldivar, Pat Sharp, George Wilson
- ❖ Excused:
- ❖ Absent:
- ❖ Staff Present: Christine Roth (County Liaison), Kate Roth (Recording Secretary)

Approval of Minutes:

The August 3, 2010 Board of Directors minutes were presented for review. Bob Reeves made the motion to approve the minutes. Pat Buckley seconded the motion.

**Vote:** approved, 6 – yes, 0 – no, 0 – abstain.

Treasurer's Report:

Pat Buckley presented an update on the bank balance for the Villages, including checks owed by the county and a draft budget.

Secretary's Report:

Bob Reeves presented a letter from Brigitte Romeo that she had written to the Sheriff's Department about illegal parking. Bob reported that the Sheriff's department had given Brigitte information on which person to contact when the problem occurs.

Bob also presented draft letters of thanks for Brigitte Romeo and Carol Burk, and each letter included a personalized thank you for service on the board. George Wilson said that he was not in favor of sending a letter to thank Carol when she served only a short time on the Board, and George also asked the Board to consider sending a thank you letter to Rick Applegate. Doug Saldivar said that the item would be carried to the next meeting after George had time to read the letter and further discussion could occur.

County Liaison's Report:

- ❖ Christine Roth reported that Clackamas County has been awarded a \$7.8 million grant for broadband Internet for the area of Sandy to Government Camp. The space for Internet access may be leased to private companies after the governments and schools are hooked up.
- ❖ The County is unveiling a new public notification system for emergencies. All landlines are automatically included, and citizens can sign up cell phones and other numbers for free on the County website.
- ❖ The County is preparing to announce who will be serving on the Clackamas County Committee that is working on reviewing the Sheriff's employees and hiring practices. The Committee will report back to the Board of County Commissioners by the end of 2010, and prior to the report will have testimony and public hearings.
- ❖ Christine also reminded citizens to remember to vote once ballots are sent out.

Old Business – Sandra Palmer's request from the Town Hall:

Doug Saldivar began the discussion by saying that Sandra Palmer had asked that the letter from the Villages Board to the BCC in support of her visitor information services be resent. He also said that the Board should listen to the community because a lawsuit comes into the picture only when or if it is filed. He also asked for an estimate of the number of people in attendance at the meeting in support of Sandra, and it was approximately thirty-five. Sandra Palmer also presented a statement of support from members of the community.

Kathleen Walker from the U.S. Forest Service said that the Forest Service has no formal position on the issue. She wanted to say that she was surprised that the paper did not include the Forest Service's ZigZag Information Center in the article. The ZigZag Information Center answered 2,700 calls and met 5,000 groups in July 2010. Information was given on topics including hiking, shopping, and dining. She asked that people be aware of the Forest Service's efforts and work. She also answered questions from the community about hours of operation.

George Wilson moved that the Board resend the letter or write a new letter. During discussion he said that he supported Sandra then and now, and thinks it is the right thing to do. Pat Buckley seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken.

<b><u>Director</u></b>	<b><u>Vote</u></b>
Pat Buckley	Yes
Shirley Dueber	Abstain
Bob Reeves	Abstain
Doug Saldivar	Yes
Pat Sharp	Abstain
George Wilson	Yes

**Vote:** motion failed, 3 – yes, 0 – no, 3 – abstain

Board discussion on the letter continued. Bob Reeves said that the letter had been hand delivered to the BCC, and said that the issue has been discussed. Pat Buckley wanted to know why the Villages Board could not just support the letter again. The Villages Board also continued a discussion about what the purpose of the Board is and how to represent the community. Bob Reeves and Pat Sharp said that it was prudent to follow the advice of counsel, and to have all the facts before deciding.

Sandra Palmer asked why some Board members decided to abstain, and she wanted to know what the Board members were afraid of.

George Wilson also asked about having a discussion over abstentions. He would like to see yes or no votes on many issues. He thought that he was concerned about abstentions as a conflict of interest.

Larry Berteau asked about the definition of a quorum and majority for the Villages Board.

Doug Saldivar suggested holding a special Town Hall meeting that would have a vote of the community on whether or not to resend the letter.

Maryanne Coyle said that no one knows the whole truth. She thought Sandra should have had estimates on the cost of providing visitor information services. Maryanne thought that Linda Bell said that there was no money. Maryanne also does not understand why Sandra stood with Janine's statement and did not get a written contract.

George Wilson moved to hold a special meeting to discuss Sandra's situation. Pat Buckley seconded the motion.

**Vote:** approved, 6 – yes, 0 – no, 0 – abstain.

The Villages Board decided to have the special meeting on September 23 at 7 pm. The location is to be decided.

#### Old Business – Draft policy for communicating with the Commissioners:

Doug Saldivar presented the draft policy for outlines for letters and formalizing communication with the BCC. Pat Sharp asked if anyone had spoke to Larry Berteau to determine if the letters could be published, and Doug said he had. Pat Sharp also said that outline was good and could be modified for a variety of uses.

Shirley Dueber moved the policy be adopted as a policy and that this is the first reading. Bob Reeves seconded the motion.

**Vote:** approved, 6 – yes, 0 – no, 0 – abstain.

Old Business – Letter to other organizations:

Doug Saldivar read aloud the draft letter to the Board. Coni Scott suggested that the Board be aware of the need to say which meeting to attend (such as an executive meeting or general meeting).

Shirley Dueber moved that the letter be sent out. Bob Reeves seconded the motion.

**Vote:** approved, 6 – yes, 0 – no, 0 – abstain.

Old Business – Monthly Meetings:

Doug Saldivar asked if the Board would like to have one or two regular meetings. George Wilson said that if there is one meeting the Board should consider what time of day to hold the meeting.

Bob Reeves moved that one monthly meeting be scheduled. Shirley Dueber seconded the motion.

**Vote:** approved, 6 – yes, 0 – no, 0 – abstain.

The Board agreed to keep the first Tuesday as the meeting date until at least October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Old Business – Bylaw Changes:

Shirley Dueber suggested that the Villages Board wait for the County ordinance changes before changing the bylaws. The Board's consensus was to wait.

Old Business – Open Board Position: There were no new applications.

Old Business – October Town Hall:

The feature of the October 23<sup>rd</sup> Town Hall will be a candidate's forum. The Town Hall will start at 9 am. Pat Sharp said that personalized invitation have been sent out, and so far those accepting include Ann Lininger, Paul Savas, Chuck Thompson, and Mark Johnson. Bob Reeves will ask Christine Chin Ryan to again moderate the forum.

Planning and Review: Actions Plans and Progress Reports:

- ❖ Pat Buckley said that the Public Safety Action Plan would include work on response time and visibility of the Sheriff's Department. He does not yet have a timeframe and is working with Bob Reeves on it.
- ❖ George Wilson said he was dealing with a family medical emergency and did not have an update.
- ❖ Bob Reeves said that the Mountain Express line work is still continuing. There is no new word on stable funding, and the small grant for funding has already been submitted. There are fundraisers that are occurring for both matching funds and Saturday service.

- ❖ Shirley Dueber reported that the Welches Road action plan work is ongoing. The County plot maps should arrive soon.
- ❖ Pat Sharp reported that she is working on the issue of quarry closure. Her research and discussions have been with the Oregon Department of Transportation, Department Of Geology And Mineral Industries, Federal Highway Administration, Bureau of Land Management, and Western Rivers Conservancy. She is learning a lot from her conversations and when she is done she will write up a report that will be presented later.
- ❖ Doug Saldivar reported that the Green Scene will occur again next year, and the committee will be at the Festival of the Forest. He is also working on sustainability and is in talks with the Chamber about a guest speaker. He is also working with Thriftway to see how reduce solid waste. Doug is also looking into alternative energy with Ecotality, and is also studying electrical charging stations for cars.

#### New Business – Communication:

The Villages Board agreed that goals should be publicized in the media and around the community.

The Board also agreed to look into creating a newsletter. It could be a monthly issue and relatively short. Doug Saldivar will assemble a draft, and then the Board will have input. Shirley Dueber suggested posting copies in the community. Keith Schacher suggested combining a paid ad with the newsletter.

#### Community Comments – Rhododendron CPO:

Steve Graper came to the Villages Board with an update from the Rhododendron CPO meeting. He said that the CPO is facing a lack of members, and that the CPO is still looking for more Board members. The CPO is beginning to explore changing the boundary to include the Fabian and woodlands area. The Rhododendron CPO is also talking with the Mount Hood Corridor CPO about boundaries, and all the discussion is just beginning.

#### New Business:

Doug Saldivar said that he had received a proposal from a local person to do secretarial services. He said that if the Board is serious about considering the proposal, then an ad should be put in the newspaper and the topic will be on the next agenda.

Pat Buckley said that the issue is the same as in the past is cost, and that the new proposal is too costly. Bob Reeves said that he did not think that local should be a requirement. Pat Sharp suggested that the Villages could plan for the future and anticipate changes and hiring, and that the Villages should not advertise a position that they do not have. George Wilson said that the Board has excellent minutes now, and that the Board should consider all the issues including negotiating over offers. A community member asked about why the Board has an outside person as recording secretary, and Bob said that it is about helping with neutrality and that the decision was made early on. Christine Roth added that having a recording secretary who is not on the

Board means that all the Board members can participate and focus on the meeting instead of taking notes.

Community Comments:

Keith Schacher said that he would like to renew the suggestion that controversy be placed at the end of the meeting. That way people hear all about what is happening in the Villages.

Larry Berteau asked about the requirement for quorums and majorities, and said that with six Board members an 80% vote is needed for passage. He also wanted to know about how to get more Board members.

Peter and Myrna Walker said that they had lived on the mountain for fifteen years and thought that Sandra Palmer was providing a valuable service.

Lisa suggested that the Villages reach out to other boards and organizations to see if any of their members would join the Villages Board.

Coni Scott presented a report from the Chamber of Commerce that the meeting earlier in the day had featured Kathleen Walker as a guest speaker on visitor information services. Also, the Chamber of Commerce elected officers. The report for TAP was that there would be a meeting soon. Bob Reeves added that Coni's report is a good example of cooperation with other organizations.

Sandra Palmer said that she feels that it is important for the Board to grow in importance, and that the Board has done damage through abstentions. She felt that the number of people at the meeting in support of her did not matter. She thought the important issue was the quandary over the role of members. She also thought it was difficult for the board to not speak when the County advises in a way. Sandra also suggested the Board consider discussing what being an "agent" means and the role and relationship with the County.

Other community members expressed a concern over not representing the community, the definition of a quorum, the difficulty of recruiting new members, and how to make the Board more relevant to the community.

Doug Saldivar and George Wilson thought that the Villages Board is more about representing the community and less about agency.

George Wilson asked that the topic of elections be on the next agenda.

Adjournment: Chair Doug Saldivar adjourned the meeting at 6:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Roth  
Recording Secretary