

VILLAGES AT MT. HOOD
SPECIAL MEETING

Minutes
March 3, 2009

Chair Bob Reeves called the Special Meeting of the Villages at Mount Hood board meeting to order at 3:01 pm on March 3rd at the Mt. Hood RV Village, 65000 E. Hwy 26, Welches, OR.

Attendance:

- ❖ Committee Members Present: Bob Reeves, Nancy Dougherty, Shirley Dueber, Brigette Romeo, Pat Buckley, Judith Norval, Rick Applegate, Patricia Sharp
- ❖ Absent:
- ❖ Excused: Robert Baker
- ❖ Staff Present: Christine Roth (county staff), Kate Roth (recording secretary)

Chair Bob Reeves welcomed the citizens to the Special Meeting and introduced the agenda for the meeting.

Cedar Ridge Property

Christine Roth presented an update of information on the Cedar Ridge property. She presented a map that identified the purchases. The purchases on the map are in two phases. The Western Rivers Conservancy is purchasing the lands in three payments.

- ❖ The Spring 2009 payment is not on schedule because of issues with the federal budget. Since the federal budget had not yet been adopted, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) was unable to make the Spring 2009 payment. A third payment is planned for Fall 2010.
- ❖ Dan Zinzer (Clackamas County) provided the information on payments and schedules. Also, Christine Roth presented e-mail from Dan Zinzer that had additional information on Cedar Ridge.

ODOT Bid # 23629 (Miller Road Quarry)

1. Christine Roth introduced a handout for the meeting that had several maps of the area around the Miller Road Quarry and other information on the area. She also stated that Clackamas County does not regulate the quarry, and that federal law regulates the quarry. She also asked that citizens direct generic comments to John Borge, a senior planner, and that questions about BLM go to Phyllis Gregory (who is at BLM's Salem office).
2. Rich Watanabe, from the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), was introduced. Mr. Watanabe is a Metro East Manager for ODOT region 1, and he oversees the design and management of projects.

- He provided a history of how consideration of the Miller Road quarry arose. When a slide on Highway 26 occurred, ODOT sought to complete emergency maintenance on the affected area. The plan was to excavate and then use stronger materials.
- In the process of looking for materials the Brightwood Quarry and the Miller Road Quarry were listed as possible locations. ODOT was also considering using the Miller Road Quarry as a possible location to stockpile materials from the slide area.
- Mr. Watanabe also spoke to the history of the Miller Road Quarry, specifically that BLM owns the land and ODOT holds the permit to use the quarry. He also discussed how the Wild and Scenic Act affects use of the quarry.
- Subsequently, Mr. Watanabe explained the process ODOT was proposing if ODOT elected to use the quarry. He described how blasting and excavation could occur. He also elaborated on how ODOT arrived at the process because he included details from the Department of Geology and Mineral Industries, as well as which other areas might be used.

3. Board Questions to Mr. Watanabe

- Rick Applegate asked Mr. Watanabe about the last time ODOT used the Miller Quarry in 1986 and asked about the process of using explosives and removing rock. Additionally, Mr. Applegate raised the issue of homes near the affected area and the issues of recreation. Mr. Watanabe apologized for ODOT's lack of awareness on the issue.
- Other board members asked if ODOT has checked the site for contamination, and the reply was that ODOT and Hazardous Materials have checked the site. The issue of local private quarries was also raised.

Citizen Comment and Questions:

- ❖ Keith Schacher asked about waste disposal near a river and how to mitigate to ensure that materials do not reach the river (erosion control). Mr. Watanabe provided a few details about erosion control and Christine Roth added that Dwayne Bishop (U.S. Forest Service Biologist) had information on the river. Mr. Schacher also asked about traffic safety.
- ❖ George Wilson asked about the process of stopping blasting at the site and the use of private rock quarries. Rich Watanabe replied that there was an open bid process and local quarries have the opportunity to submit bids, and that ODOT is required to take the low bid. George Wilson also asked about the Cedar Ridge documents and asked that more information on who is making decisions be provided. He was also concerned that public involvement requirements were not met.
- ❖ Dick Bauer, a property owner near the area, spoke about his concern over the use of explosives and its effects (noise, dust). ODOT responded that the project in Sandy is the only proposed use of the quarry. Additionally, ODOT provided information about what happens after the removal of rocks.

- ❖ Jim Finch inquired about the issue of compensation for any possible damages due to the quarry process.
- ❖ Other citizens asked about public involvement requirements, environmental averages, highway repair, and how to correct traffic problems.
- ❖ Other citizen issues were historical sites and water resource reports.
- ❖ Finally, several citizens strongly urged ODOT to use other sites or local private quarries.

Chair Bob Reeves thanked Christine Roth, county liaison, for her hard work on information gathering and organization of the meeting.

Adjournment:

Chair Bob Reeves adjourned the Special Meeting at 4:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Roth
Recording Secretary