

Our Town

A Publication of The City of Coburg

March/April 2017 Issue

Mayor's Corner

Participation and Communication!

Ray Smith, Mayor

After considerable debate, the City Council authorized up to \$50,000 for a consultant to implement a "Community Visioning" process. Rural Development Initiatives (RDI) was selected and has been working diligently with focus groups of citizens and staff to make this project a success.

No matter how hard this handful of people work, it cannot be successful without one element. That is CITIZEN PARTICIPATION.

The Community Visioning process is a formal term for getting input from the people of Coburg. The wants, needs, and suggestions from you are needed now. This input will be used to make many decisions that will affect this city for the next ten years or more. Long term substantial decisions will be made, with the final report created from the information that is being gathered now.

Even though Coburg is a small town, we are nonetheless an incorporated city that is bound by many laws and rules dictated by federal, state, and our own city government. The City Council is responsible for setting policy, including budgeting, and creating (or removing) ordinances in Coburg. Ideally this should be done with generous input from the citizenry.

We are required by State law to have master plans that include Capital Improvement Programs (CIPs) for any future large capital expenditures toward infrastructure in our city. Due to expense and staff hours required for these updates, these master plans are only updated approximately every 10 years. We have master plans for sewer, water, streets, parks, and planning and development. If you are concerned about any of these issues, now is the time to participate. It will be too late if you wait.

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City Council Brief

Highlights of actions and topics the Coburg City Council has recently addressed and issues likely to be discussed in the next couple of months.



JANUARY

- State of the City address by Mayor Smith
- Year in Review by City Administrator
- Citizen of the Year Presentation to Jim Broughton
- Employee of the Year Presentation to Michel Lee, Police Officer
- Oath of Office administered to elected Mayor and three Councilors
- Appointed Sharyl Abbaspour as City Council President
- Approved Resolution 2017-03 Updating the City fee schedule
- Approved Resolution 2017-01 applying annual System Development Charges inflation

FEBRUARY

City Council

- Accepted the Audit report through June 2016 for City and Urban Renewal Agency
- Appointed Anne Heath as Budget Officer
- Approved Resolution 2017-02 Federal Open Government and Whistleblower policy
- Accepted donation to Coburg Police Department
- Arbor Day Proclamation
- Executive Session: Urban Growth Boundary and Transportation System Plan options
- Executive Session: Annual Performance Review, City Administrator

Coburg Budget Committee Vacancies

Help Mold Our Future

City of Coburg is accepting applications for two (2) Budget Committee positions with terms ending June 30, 2019.

Applicant must be a qualified elector and have resided in the City one year immediately preceding appointment to the position.

Applications may be picked up at City Hall, Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. or contact City Recorder



CONTACT:

Sammy Egbert, City Recorder
541-682-7852, sammy.egbert@ci.coburg.or.us

coburgoregon.org

Coburg Committee Highlights

Updates on what the Coburg Committees have recently accomplished or are currently addressing.

Planning Commission

January

- January meeting cancelled with hearing postponed

February

- Commission approved recommending Master Planned Development Subdivision (N. Industrial Way/Pearl St.)



Coburg City Hall looking north from Willamette St.

Park/Tree Committee

January

- New Chair Claire Smith
- New Vice Chair Lonna Meston
- Discussion on logo for Coburg Loop Path bike boulevard signage
- Set Goals for 2017
- Annual Report for Council

February

- Update on Arbor Day
- Annual Report for Council review
- Pavilion Park stone planter

Audit/Finance Committee

January

- 2nd Quarter Financial Review
- 2nd Quarter Urban Renewal Agency (URA) Financial Review
- Audit Report Review – Fiscal Year 2016
- URA Audit Report Review – Fiscal Year 2016
- Contractor Kathy Taylor 2nd Quarter Financial Review report

Heritage Committee

January

- Committee selected new project ideas for Certified Local Government (CLG) grant application

February

- Community Visioning focus group
- Submitted grant application



Who's that employee?

Jason Crume has been with the Public Works Department since October of this last year. Jason and his fiancée Dawn have a three-year-old son, Jackson. They were all born here in the Southern Willamette Valley. He is very excited to live and work in Coburg; it has always been a town he loved. In his spare time from work and raising a family he loves to fish, hunt, and golf. He also loves the Oregon Ducks! He is looking forward to raising his family in Coburg and loves his job with the Public Works team.

Citizen of the Year – Jim Broughton

Jim has been a viable sustainable fixture in this community for six decades. During that time, he has been actively involved in many aspects of the City, including serving as Mayor of Coburg 1980-1984, being part of Planning and Visioning groups, and Senior Meals Coordinator. He was nominated by several citizens, making the Mayor's choice an easy one for 2016 Citizen of the Year.

Thanks for all you do for Coburg, Jim Broughton!



2016 Employee of the Year – Michel Lee

Officer Mike Lee is consistently fair and compassionate in all his endeavors, earning him the respect of both his colleagues as well as the community. That coupled with his impressive work ethic made him an easy choice to be named the City of Coburg 2016 Employee of the Year.

Congratulations Officer Michel Lee!



SENIOR MEALS PROGRAM

Offering Café 60 & Meals On Wheels

Wednesdays at Noon

Coburg Café 60 welcomes adults age 60 and older
To gather with our neighbors for lunch and a visit.
Donations for meals are appreciated.

Coburg United Methodist Church
91193 N. Willamette in Coburg

Contact - 541-682-4378 or
visit www.laneseniormeals.org



Coburg Community Visioning

A Super Opportunity to Get Involved!

Thanks to all of you who have been involved in the Community Visioning process so far! The project is moving on to the next phase, and you are invited to complete the second survey regarding priorities for the future of your community. Click here https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/coburg_vision to take the survey. It will only take a few minutes, and your input is essential to the process.

As part of the collaborative process to create a 20-year Community Vision for the City, the community of Coburg and RDI are currently holding community focus groups centered around ten different key areas:

- Seniors
- Latinos
- Agricultural Businesses
- Youth
- Young Families
- Groups Outside Coburg
- CORE Businesses Downtown
- Tourism
- Committee Groups
- I-5 Businesses

Thanks to all who attended the meeting in January! The meeting, which was the kick-off to the project, was attended by many community members who shared feedback about what makes the community of Coburg truly special.

You're invited to the next **Community Visioning Summit on March 16 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Coburg City Hall**. Mark your calendar! Details and registration are to come.



For more information about participating in a focus group, or for questions about the Coburg Community Visioning process, please contact RDI's Jess Hampton at jhampton@rdiinc.org or (503) 801-2513.

The key objectives of the Community Visioning process are to:

- Produce a 20-year Vision Statement that will guide future actions and support any future Comprehensive Plan update
- Engage a broad and inclusive representation of voices in the community to ensure that the aspirations and priorities reflected in the vision are community driven
- Ensure community buy-in, awareness, and coordinated follow-up actions for the Coburg Community Vision

The community Vision Statement generated by this process will help the community create many possible options for action.



Coburg Community Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 15, 10am

Coburg's Norma Pfeiffer Park



P arents O f T eenagers



Is your teenager using drugs
or alcohol?

Not sure what to do?



Here is something you can do:

- Attend an open discussion.
- Understand the problem.
- SERENITY LANE will be there to help.

Wednesday, April 12th from 7-9pm
Coburg City Hall Assembly Room

91136 N Willamette St.



Coburg Police Department

"Enhancing Our Community"

Serenity Lane - "Saving Lives Since 1973"

Meet Coburg's Camas Swale Farm

In September 2014 husband and wife farming duo Jonah Bloch and Amber Lippert purchased the 16 acre property at 91424 Coburg Road just East of Johnson Brothers Garden Market. The home was finished in approximately 1911 by Archibald Simmons for the Stoneberg family. At that time the property consisted of 80 acres of fairly flat pasture, two creeks, and at least two barns.



Bloch-Lippert family 2015: Jonah, Amber and Iris

For over a century the Stoneberg family resided in the home and supported their family through farming



Apple Barn and Andrew Stoneberg circa 1920

fruits and vegetables, and raising animals. The small "Apple Barn" stored fruit that would be sent by train to Chicago for retail sale, and remains standing south of the house.

Today, the Apple Barn is used to store garlic, potatoes and winter squash and is the home for Jonah and Amber's growing family. The couple, along with their parents who reside in Eugene, and Jason Rydquist who also lives and works on the farm, grow vegetables, culinary herbs, and flowers. Their farm products are available at farm-to-table restaurants including Agrarian Ales and Marche, at their farm stand near the U of O, and directly to families

through their Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Harvest Share program. The farm will be undergoing Organic Certification in 2017. Formerly, the couple farmed in Creswell and Junction City since 2009.

It was a delight to speak with farm owners Amber and Jonah. The couple is ready to meet more locals and grow their "roots" here.



Photo of Stoneberg family approximately 1911 left to right: Althea Wilkins, Herbert, Emily, Andrew Stoneberg, Reuben, Jenny, and Hugo

They note that in six years of seeking the right farm for their business and family, this is the place for them. This will be Camas Swale Farm's third season growing crops and their farm business in Coburg.

You can learn more about Camas Swale Farm and their CSA Harvest Shares at www.camasswalefarm.com. A CSA Harvest Share box contains 8-12 different vegetables weekly. Local residents can pick up their



Camas Swale Farm's West Field 2016

share of the harvest at the farm on Tuesdays or Fridays Jun-Nov.

From Ashes to Light

When I started serving churches thirty-one years ago, I was appointed to the United Methodist Church in Sheridan, up in Yamhill County. Sheridan was a small town of about 2000 at the time, and was rather proud of their volunteer fire department. I was young and adventurous, so I joined. Being a pastor, my schedule was flexible, so I was often one of the first ones to show up when the alarm went off.

The destruction wreaked by fire is always impressive and highly sobering. In a small town, you usually knew the family who got burned out. Occasionally I had even been in the house before fire took its toll. It was always poignant to return to the scene after the fire was out to peruse the charred remains and ashes.

Ashes.

Ashes are an ancient symbol of how our human cleverness, schemes and dreams all too easily go awry, and end up as a pile of ashes. People in ancient times would smear ash on their faces as a sign of mourning or in response to something terrible they had done, for which they were asking forgiveness.

I think of ashes as a good symbol of how, in spite of all our good intentions and hopes, things still fall apart. That has happened to me too many times to recall. How about you? What plans or dreams of yours have turned to ashes?

There's an ancient practice that the church offers to all of us to help us come to terms with the ashes in our lives. For over a thousand years, every year people would spend the forty days before Easter thinking about what was going on in their lives –

what was working and what wasn't, who they had hurt and from whom they needed to ask forgiveness, things they were doing that they knew they needed to stop doing, that sort of thing. Because it was in the Spring, and the days started to lengthen, they called it "Lent," from an old English word, "Lencten."

Lent always starts with Ash Wednesday, and concludes with the joyous sounds of Easter. In between is a good time to think about what changes of direction our lives need to take, what changes of attitude might make our relationships go more smoothly, what things we need to apologize for, what we need to give up.

Coburg has three local churches that can help this process along:

- The Bridge Open Bible Church at 90890 Coburg Road has services every Sunday at 10:00 a.m.
- Countryside Christian Fellowship at 32534 W Van Duyn St. gathers for worship Sundays at 10 a.m., Wednesday mornings at 6:30, and Thursdays at 7 p.m.
- The United Methodist Church I serve, located at 91193 N. Willamette St., meets on Sundays at 9:00 in the morning. We will also be celebrating a Maundy Thursday meal in the style of a Passover Seder on April 13th at 5:30 pm, and all are invited.
- On Saturday, April 15th, Countryside Christian Fellowship and the United



CCCS Bronco News January/February 2017

WE DID IT! On February 1st, 4J School District voted in favor of CCCS for a 10 year charter renewal securing our future. This is the longest renewal the School has ever received. We want to thank the countless hours the Board of Directors, community members, parents and staff put in leading up to this decision. We will be holding a celebration later in the year for this huge win for Coburg and CCCS. Date and time will be available soon!

Enroll at CCCS! Applications to enroll your child at CCCS for the 2017-18 school year are due March 17th to be eligible for the lottery held on April 12th. CCCS is a public school (no tuition,) but follows different enrollment guidelines based on charter law. For more information on the application process and how to enroll your child please visit our website coburgcharter.com.

The Annual Auction was held March 4th at Valley River Inn. It was a wonderful 'Beachy' night celebrating CCCS and raising much needed funds! Thank you to all who attended and to the wonderful businesses and individuals who donated items for this annual event!

Skill Days are wrapping up in March and students have been busy learning new skills and hobbies! Eleven classes including felting, fabric crafting, MMA, jazzercise, RC Cars and



more have kept our Kindergarten-5th graders busy.

Thank you to the volunteers and businesses who volunteer and support Skill Days!



Upcoming Events at CCCS:

March 3,10,17	Skill Days
March 4th	Annual Auction
March 13th	Board Meeting
March 24	No School
March 27-April 31	Spring Break
April 5	Classes Resume
April 10	Board Meeting 6pm @ City Hall PCS Meeting 6:30pm @ CCCS Library
April 13	Book Fair & Open House
April 20	Concert for grades 3-5

from page 8 - Ashes to Light

Methodist Church sponsor the annual Easter Egg Hunt in Norma Pheiffer Park at 10:00 a.m.

- Easter morning, April 16th is the time to end our time of self-reflection and celebrate the possibilities of taking a new direction in life. Churches are a good place to do this.

One time in college, I was walking in the local park after it had rained. The rain caught the light as the sun came out. As I turned a corner in the path, I was nearly blinded by the blaze of sunlight reflecting off the rain-soaked leaves. As I looked behind myself, the path I had come from was dark and shaded. The path ahead was effulgent with light.

Continued on page 10

from page 1 - Mayor's Corner

The first phase of input was solicited through utility billing enclosures, public meetings, and through our City website and Facebook pages. At last count, we had approximately 50 inputs to the three simple questions in the survey. While the consultant states this is expected, personally, I am disappointed that 50 inputs will be used to weigh the thoughts and concerns of over 1,000 citizens.

I have heard many citizens' complaints about what they dislike about the Coburg city government. Anger and frustration are two of humanity's great motivators. Historically, our Country has acted to change what angers and frustrates us. Events like the Boston Tea Party and the Revolutionary War were actions taken by citizens to implement change. While not as drastic, the Community Visioning process can and should bring about the fundamental element of good government: citizen representation.

My hope is that we are not angry about what we should be, but are motivated to create what we want to be. Our city government is trying to be responsive, but we are seriously lacking one element: productive communication from our citizens. We need to hear from you. We want to hear your ideas and dreams for a better Coburg. We should not be harnessed by past frustrations; we should be empowered by

our experiences to move forward with big ideas.

We need your ideas.

Please participate in the Community Visioning process. I always encourage you to communicate with your elected representatives, whether by email, snail mail, phone call, or face-to-face. Councilors and the Mayor need to hear from you. Contact information is available at City Hall and on our web page.

Please watch for notices from RDI that request input from you. There will also be public meetings to give your input and have the opportunity to learn about what the Visioning Process really means. Just a few minutes to fill out a survey or less than an hour of time at a town hall meeting can make a big difference for our future. How appropriate that new ideas be gathered in the spring so we can nourish and feed them into a bright future for Coburg. I look forward to seeing your ideas and suggestions.



Mayor Ray Smith
City of Coburg
541-729-7045
mayor@ci.coburg.or.us



from page 9 - Ashes to Light

The path through Lent, like our path through life, is like that. It can begin with looking at a pile of ashes, enshrouded in darkness, but all we need to do is change our direction, look into the light, and walk that way.

May whatever in your life has become a heap of ashes be turned into a light-filled path.

Thoughts from the Heart,

Rev. Dr. Craig S. Pesti-Strobel

Coburg United Methodist Church

Calendar



STANDING MEETINGS

2nd Mondays

CCCS SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

6:00 pm

3rd Mondays

ODDFELLOW MEETING

6:30 pm, I.O.O.F Hall

2nd Tuesdays

CITY COUNCIL

7:00 pm, Coburg

Contact, Sammy Egbert, City Recorder

541-682-7852

3rd Tuesdays

PARKS/TREE COMMITTEE

7:00 pm, City Hall

Contact, Brian Harmon, Public Works Director

541-682-7857

4th Tuesdays (or as scheduled)

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSIONS

6:30 pm, City Hall

Contact, Sammy Egbert, City Recorder

541-682-7852

4th Tuesdays

COBURG FIRE DISTRICT BOARD MEETINGS

7:00 pm, Fire Hall

2nd Wednesdays

GRANGE MEETING

7:00 pm, Coburg Community Grange

3rd Wednesdays

PLANNING COMMISSION

7:00 pm, City Hall

Contact, Jeff Kernen, Planner

541-682-7858

3rd Wednesdays

HERITAGE COMMITTEE

6:00 pm, City Hall

Contact, Jeff Kernen, Planner

541-682-7858

3rd Wednesdays

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Noon, City Hall

1st Thursdays

METROPOLITAN POLICY COMMITTEE

11:30 am (usually at the Eugene or Springfield library)

Contact, Petra Schuetz, City Administrator

541-682-7871

1st Fridays

POKER NIGHT

6:30 pm Registration, 7:00 pm game begins
Coburg Community Grange

541-746-8655

Do you have a community event to share?

Call 541-682-7852

or email sammy.egbert@ci.coburg.or.us

Our Town

*A Publication of
The City of Coburg*



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Address Correction Requested

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Questions About City Happenings?



We work for you! The City wants you to get the information you need and care about. Currently, Our Town, the Coburg website coburgoregon.org, the 'City of Coburg, Oregon' Facebook page, 'Coburg Police Department' Facebook Page, monthly utility bills, the Post Office (Dari-Market), and City Hall are all places to get information about what is happening in and around Coburg. Council and committee meetings are also great resources.

What do you want to hear about? How do you like to get information? Let us know.

- Coburg City Staff