JOINT (CITY/PORT) WORK GROUP FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Meeting Notice and Agenda
Thursday, July 25, 2013
7:00 PM
City Hall Council Chambers

1. Call To Order/Pledge of Allegiance

2. Welcome and Self-Introductions
   a. City Representatives
   b. Port Representatives

3. Adoption of meeting minutes (from city) of June 27, 2013

4. Citizen Input

5. Report back from JWGED members on citizen appointments to advise the group. (Members)

6. Port status report on Bridge of the Gods (Paul)

7. Status report on Port Strategic Plan (Holly)

8. Economic Development Department Update (Gary and Holly)

9. Adjournment

The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. A request for an interpreter for the hearing impaired, or for other accommodations for person with disabilities, should be made at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting by contacting the City of Cascade Locks office at 541-374-8484.

Minutes
Joint Work Group on Economic Development
June 27, 2013

1. **Call To Order/Pledge of Allegiance:** Port Commission President Jesse Groves called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM. Port Commissioner Brenda Cramblett, City Councilor Bruce Fitzpatrick, and Port Commission President Jesse Groves were present. JWGED Committee Members absent were City Councilor Jeff Helfrich. Mayor Cramblett would join the meeting around 8:30 PM. Also present were City Administrator Gordon Zimmerman, Interim Port General Manager Paul Koch, City Recorder Kathy Woosley, Stan Foster, Holly Howell, Jason Sargeant, Dave Palais, Bill Flood, Mark Seder, and Camera Operator Betty Rush.

2. **Welcome and Self-Introductions**

3. **Adoption of meeting minutes of May 30, 2013:** CM Fitzpatrick moved, seconded by PC Cramblett, to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

4. **Developing More Citizen Involvement:** IPGM Koch said the JWGED has discussed the need for more community members to be involved in the process. PCP Groves said the committee has discussed adding a citizen member for each established member. Clarification was made that the citizen members would be advisory to the elected officials and nonvoting. **Motion:** PC Cramblett moved, seconded by CM Fitzpatrick, to add five citizens to be advisory members only. The motion passed unanimously.

5. **Port Strategic Plan**: IPGM Koch and Holly Howell introduced the Parc Resources Team to brief the JWGED on the Port's Strategic Plan. Mr. Foster said a plan is required by the State of Oregon and introduced Bill Flood and Mark Seder. He said Jason Sargeant will talk about the Park Master Plan.

Mr. Flood said he would like to ask everyone present to consider two questions:

1. **What is your VISION for economic development and job creation in Cascade Locks?**
2. **What does success look like, how do we know if we are being successful, and how do we measure success?**

Some of the answers given were: When the Industrial Park and all land is full; there is a huge traffic and parking problem in the downtown; one step at a time; jobs and recreation supporting each other; the return of our school; a fully functioning City and Port with healthy budgets; business properties full. The group discussed the combined efforts of the City and Port with infrastructure needs for economic development.

The JWGED discussed the resources available to help with economic development projects. PCP Groves said the Port staff has dedicated a lot of time to work with clients and economic development issues.

IPGM Koch said a measurement of success would be for the 16% unemployment rate to be lower and the long term survival for Cascade Locks would be to align more with Stevenson for school, emergency services, and economic development. PCP Groves said we need lunch box jobs and diversity in jobs in the industrial park. CA Zimmerman said there needs to be an increase in the median wage.

Mr. Flood asked the group what they thought were possible barriers to achieving success. Some of the answers given were: Rules and regulations; environmentalists, State of Oregon, cost of infrastructure; problems with the Bridge of the Gods; bringing the community alongside; the perception of Cascade Locks being remote; lack of basic services; physical barriers such as the rail road, freeway, etc.

Mr. Seder said the Port has such diversity in land. He said Cascade Locks has a competitive advantage stating Cascade Locks is accessed first off of the freeway. The JWGED spoke of possible economic development opportunities on Port owned land.

Mr. Sargeant said citizens would be receiving a questionnaire in their utility bills and asked the group to respond to a couple of the questions. He asked the group to list what three things they loved about the park. Some of the responses included the history; the marina; the beauty and scenery; Thunder Island; the different uses all in one area; a lot of activity without feeling crowded; the navigation locks. Mr. Sargeant mentioned the history of the park and wondered if Cascade Locks was getting that information out to the public. He then asked what the group disliked about the park. Some of the responses included the entry; pedestrian access; poor parking; rail road. PCP Groves said the Port Commission is reviewing other ways for access into the park including underground. Mr. Seder said the Port might consider less vehicles and more pedestrian access into the park.

6. Wastewater Solutions: CA Zimmerman said the State of Oregon is excited that Cascade Locks is looking at pretreatment. He said the city is looking for funding for the wastewater issues for the three cities (North Bonneville/Stevenson/Cascade Locks). He said the City is also looking at alternative options for the Cascade Locks system.

7. Progress of Intergovernmental Agreement: CA Zimmerman said the Port Commission and City Council have approved the guidelines for the IGA and that City Attorney Cleaveland is preparing the IGA for adoption at a special joint meeting on July 15, 2013. PCP Groves said the Port Commission examined the alternative options at Canby and in Canada.

8. Review of Gorge Commission Efforts: CA Zimmerman said the managers from North Bonneville/Stevenson/Cascade Locks, IGPM Koch, and the Gorge Commission are focusing right now on looking for funding for a feasibility study for shared wastewater and emergency services between the three cities. He explained the budgetary issues in supporting emergency services departments. He said an ambulance department can fund itself but the fire department side can't.

Mayor Cramblett arrived at 8:30 PM.

9. Master Water Plan Update: CA Zimmerman said the consultants are close to being done and the City should be receiving the preliminary draft soon.

10. Explanation of Enterprise Facilitation: CA Zimmerman said he would like to table this until there is a full committee present.

Other(added): PC Cramblett mentioned checking into the Charter School that is located in the Troutdale/Wood Village area. IPGM Koch said we need to get the Gorge Commission on board and change the focus to the kids and not on money. He said the community needs to get serious about politically changing the thought process for education. He said maybe there could be a two-state charter school for North Bonneville/Stevenson/Cascade Locks.

Mr. Palais reported on the Food and Water Watch/Bark protest.

Ms. Howell said that she met with Economic Development Director for Hood River County. She said she provides monthly updates for the group consisting of representatives of the Port of Cascade Locks, the Port of Hood River, Hood River County, and City of Hood River. She said the new director for the Hood River Chamber was at the meeting and was excited about all the great things going on in Cascade Locks.

11. Adjournment: Motion: CM Fitzpatrick moved, seconded by Mayor Cramblett, to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

Prepared by
Kathy Woosley, City Recorder

APPROVED:

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Jesse Groves, Port Commission