

JOINT (CITY/PORT) WORK GROUP FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**Meeting Notice and Agenda
Thursday, August 30, 2018
7:00 PM
City Hall Council Chambers**

1. Call To Order/Pledge of Allegiance
2. Welcome and Self-Introductions
3. Adoption of meeting minutes of July 26, 2018
4. Citizen Input
5. City/Port Issues:
 - a. Port report on economic development activities
 - b. City report on economic activities and public infrastructure
6. Reports from Other Agencies.
 - a. Principal Cascade Locks School, Amy Moreland updating preschool funds
 - b. Transportation report by MCEDD outlining regional transportation systems
7. Other Matters
 - a. Approve Principal Cascade Locks School, Amy Moreland request for JWGED membership representing the school district
8. Next Meeting: October 25, 2018 7PM
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.

PP Groves said Thunder Island Brewery (TIB) met with the Port and gave a progress report about construction for their new building on WaNaPa. PC Lorang said engineering for TIB's new building has taken five months longer than anticipated. He said they will have to pour a three foot thick slab in order to be able to build on the site on WaNaPa.

CA Zimmerman said a Line Load Request had to be submitted to BPA for Oregon Mines, the new bit coin company coming in to the former Smokey Mountain Logistics site. He said representatives from BPA said it would be better to withdraw the request and just give them a future forecast of what the anticipated usage will be. He said Oregon Mines has issued a check to the City for \$75,000, the amount needed to pay for the engineering upgrades to the site. He said Oregon Mines will be up and running in late August or early September.

6. **Reports from Other Agencies.** Mr. Scribner said the new president of Mt. Hood Community College, Dr. Lisa Skari, has formally stepped into her position and she seemed very pleasant. He said in the short time he's been at the college he is optimistic that with the new president, faculty and administration will get along well. He said MHCC is looking strongly at beginning a Pharmacy Technician program. He said he'd like to contribute in some way to the Cascade Locks community with some type of educational program for the citizens.
7. **Other Matters.** PP Groves said one of the businesses in town reported to the Port they are 10% down in revenue and the Bridge of the Gods is also down from last year. He said the Port attributes the loss to Historic Highway 30 being closed. He said also the iconic hiking trails being closed hurts tourism.

PP Groves said the new bus service, Columbia Gorge Express, is doing well and ridership has been over 30,000 this year so far. He said the goal of the bus is to eventually provide service all the way to Mt. Hood.

Mr. Munkoff said he had an idea for a community education or outreach class that could possibly be taught by MHCC here in town. He said the name of the program is Wild Craft. He said the program would teach arts and crafts related to the outdoors and the local area. All present agreed it sounded interesting and worth looking into. PM Koch said if there is contact information about the program he would look into it. Mr. Munkoff gave PM Koch the information.

8. **Next Meeting: Thursday, August 30, 2018**
9. **Adjournment.** PP Groves adjourned the meeting at 8:15.

Prepared by
Marilyn Place, Deputy Recorder

APPROVED:

Jess Groves, Port President

1. **Call To Order/Pledge of Allegiance.** PP Groves called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. Present were PC Brad Lorang, CM Richard Randall and Mayor Tom Cramblett. Also present were Citizen Member's Gary Munkoff and Bernard Seeger, MHCC Dean of Health Professions Doug Scribner, PM Paul Koch, CA Gordon Zimmerman and Deputy Recorder Marilyn Place.
2. **Welcome and Self-Introductions.** Those present introduced themselves.
3. **Adoption of meeting minutes.** There was no quorum for June 28, 2018.
4. **Citizen Input.** None.
5. **City/Port Status Report:** PM Koch said the Economic Development Manager for the Port, Don Mann, announced that pFriem Brewing will be expanding their business with a manufacturing and cold storage facility in Cascade Locks. He said they will construct their building sometime in 2019 on the north side of Columbia Gorge Way in the Industrial Park.

PM Koch said the Port Commission has adopted its 2019 Legislative Priorities and on the list is the support for the preschool funding in Cascade Locks.

PM Koch said the Port had several items on the list for the Christmas Tree Fund. He said one of items was \$900,000 which will replace the federal funds to design the bike/ped crossing on the Bridge of the Gods.

PM Koch said the Port had ODOT do all the striping for the parking lots at the Port and at the Herman Creek Business Park.

PM Koch said the Port Commission has approved the expenditure for improvements to the fishing area in the Industrial Park. He said the improvements will include paving the road off Columbia Gorge Way and adding portable restrooms that have a permanent roof structure over them. He said on the east side going towards the cove there will be a roadway to a parking lot and access to the river which will also connect to the trails out there.

PP Groves said the Port had to withdraw the design project for the bike/ped crossing on the Bridge of the Gods because it was a federally funded project. He said a law was discovered which said if federal transportation grant funds are used it would require all tolls collected on the bridge go solely to bridge operation. He said the second part of that project to actually build the crossing has not been withdrawn and the cost is about \$25,000,000.

Mr. Seeger asked why is it so expensive to build the bike/ped crossing on the bridge. PP Groves said because that includes retro fitting the structure of the bridge to be seismically sound. PC Lorang said it's good because the seismic upgrades to the bridge are part of a fifteen year maintenance and preservation plan that has already been in place. He said in essence it's like killing two birds with one stone, we get the bridge up to date seismically while getting the bike/ped crossing built. He said hopefully in two years when the next transportation bill comes along it will have new language in it that omits bridges in scenic area's from having to use their tolls solely for bridge operations.

Mr. Seeger asked while waiting for the funding and the building of the bike/ped crossing is there something that can be done to accommodate the people who walk and bike across the bridge right now. He suggested a designated lane on the bridge separated by some sort of a barrier. PP Groves said safety and the issues with pedestrians and cyclists has been discussed and the Port will be increasing signage and considering other options to keep people safe.