

Minutes of the Pacific City-Woods CPAC meeting March 19, 2007

Meeting held at Kiawanda Community Center in Pacific City at 6:30 p.m. Approximately 25 members and Bill Holmstrom of the Tillamook Planning Department, along with Nestucca Rural Fire Protection District Chief Royce Fletcher with Board of Director members Ken Crowe and Gary Carlson in attendance.

The meeting was called to order by Anne Price. The minutes of the February 17, 2007 meeting were introduced. Barbara Taylor moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Margie Stoughton. The minutes were approved unanimously by the attending members.

The guest speaker, Chief Fletcher, introduced himself and the two board of directors, Gary Carlson and Ken Crowe. Chief Fletcher told of his history with the district- 40 years with 37 years as a volunteer. He said that since he has been chief there is now a training officer position due to the new certifications required with tougher standards and restrictions. He noted that the position is with a stipend and not a payroll position. The training is aided with the use of power point presentations and a library. Fletcher said that the building maintenance is performed by paid staff, and that all the buildings are in adequate condition except the administration building which was built in the '70's. Fletcher said that the strategic plan presented a year ago has been covered except for 2 points, and that now the long range plans are the focus. He said that the Board of Directors appointed the Fire Marshall to work with the state and county to advice on safety and codes including road access and water supplies, all of the public education and fire prevention in the school or any organization that requests it. He did note that the Fire Marshall has no enforcement authority. Fletcher then told those present that the district recently purchased two F350 vehicles to replace the command vehicle and the maintenance vehicle. He said the old maintenance vehicle had over 200,000 miles on it and was overloaded. The new vehicles have extinguishing capabilities with foam to take care of small fires, and if a bigger fire is encountered then additional units can respond. He said that the old command rig was a Durango without secure areas for the equipment which would move around while on route. He also said that the command rig is used by Duty Officers for after hours calls, and noted that one can then go out instead of everyone. He noted that code 3, or sirens and lights responses are a safety issue. He said that the morale of the district is better then it was and that the Volunteer Association has changed officers and is planning more community projects such as a BBQ, pancake breakfast and Christmas basket project. He said that they have 37-40 volunteers which fluctuate daily due to people having time off or moving. He said that the recent fire in Beaver had a good response of 19 on scene. He also noted that medical calls don't need many people and that he tries to save gas for volunteers by cutting down the number responding. He noted that as there are few jobs and no industry in the area, volunteers must provide for their family first, and if they aren't happy at home they aren't a happy volunteer. Fletcher said that there is a new Tsunami siren set for Tierra del Mar with help from North Lincoln Fire. He noted that the sirens cost about \$25,000, with cheap ones ranging from \$12,000 to \$15,000, and that the better ones have strobe lighting and electronic messaging. He pointed out that regardless of an alarm, if one feels the ground

shake head to higher ground immediately. He noted that the area will be isolated in an emergency and that generators have been installed in the Cloverdale station and purchased for the Pacific City, Beaver and Neskowin stations, helping to make the fire stations a place to gather in a crisis.

Chief Fletcher pointed out that there are issues with the current facilities such as that new equipment is larger, allowing only 1" clearance at some stations to park the rigs. He noted that the tax rate for the district is .91 per thousand, and they have a budget of \$574,000. The district has 6 stations, 35-40 volunteers, and 4 paid staff, covers 110 square miles, has 35+ pieces of equipment including 2- 7K water storage tanks, 2 dry hydrants and a 3K tender to go into Cloverdale. Chief Fletcher said that the ISO or Insurance Service Office that determines the rates for homeowners insurance considers the hydrants, hoses, response times, named roads, agreements with neighboring districts for mutual aid and the number of responders. He said that a recent grant for \$5,000 was received from OHSU for medical equipment and another will be coming through for an ATV for use at the Sand Lake station.

An audience member asked about response for forest fires or hazmat. Chief Fletcher said that the nearest hazmat team is in Salem, and would have to be called in. Forest fires are handled by ODF, BLM, OOF, and USFS with the local fire district. He said that an aerial device may be looked at to purchase by the district, but that it would have to be a used model as new ones cost millions of dollars. Nick Gelbard said that as the CPAC reviews proposed development and growth he asked about during the summer when the area fills up with people what is the capacity of the firefighters and first responders. Chief Fletcher said that anytime in the summer the district can cover a first call out and that there is a medical rescue rig and the ambulance in Pacific City. He said that a second incident could take more time to handle depending on the type and how many of the volunteers are in the area and available. Larry Rouse asked about the projected future growth and budget for the district. Chief Fletcher said that he had recently met with the County Assessor and that the projection is that the tax base is increasing by about \$35,000 per year. Donna Schuller asked if there is some sort of charge for new homes, similar to the hook up fees for water and sewer, which can be used for the fire district. Chief Fletcher said that there isn't one in place now, but that Schuller could talk to the County Commissioners about it. Anne Price noted that the Fire District Board of Directors meets at 7pm on the second Wednesday of each month, and that the public is encouraged to attend. Nick Gelbard said that when a subdivision is proposed the Chief and Fire Marshall review access, turn arounds and slopes, and are there other issues that should be checked into? Chief Fletcher said that the state and county have the final say and that steep grades such as the 12-15 percent for an area in Sea Watch require a trade off such as requiring sprinklers. Larry Rouse asked if the grades of private streets and drives are regulated. Chief Fletcher said no, but the emergency vehicles may not be able to reach those homes with steep grades. Nick Gelbard mentioned that he received a call of a fire alarm at the Cloverdale Elementary school, and was happy to see the Chief, Fire Marshall and truck with 3 people show up at 3:30 a.m. Donna Schuller asked about the water rescue team. Chief Fletcher said they gave it up to the professionals with the Coast Guard, and that the district will do visual monitoring from the shore. Schuller asked what

number to call if there is a person in distress in the water, and Chief Fletcher said to call 911. Margie Stoughton asked about the equipment from the water rescue team, and Chief Fletcher said that it has all been sold except a boat trailer and a motor. The Chief passed out Fire District mugs to Margie Stoughton and Sergio Ortiz.

Donna Schuller gave the treasures report. She said that one check had been written of \$9.36 for postage, leaving a balance of \$210.43. Anne Price noted that there will be future projects that may require money to complete, such as a questionnaire. Larry Rouse mentioned that if the hat is passed at meetings only, some people may quite coming as they would be the only ones donating. Anne suggested that the CPAC approach the full membership with a suggested donation of \$10 or so, with a note that any amount would be helpful. She noted that over \$200 was raised by just passing the hat at two meetings, so value is perceived for this group. A PO Box would have to be purchased for the donations. Carolyn McVicker asked about possibly sharing a box with a current board member, and it was decided that it could be a hazy area, and that keeping the official CPAC mail separate would be the best option. It was put to the members present to vote on the idea of a mass mailing to request funds. Barbara Taylor moved to adopt a mailing and renting a PO Box, Kathy Schillito seconded the motion, and it passed with 24 yes votes, 0 no votes and 0 abstaining.

Committee Reports:

Nick Gelbard said that there was no news from the nominating committee. Anne Price noted that the August meeting will be the first general meeting and election of officers, and that anyone interested in a position or making a recommendation for one should contact Nick or any board member.

Larry Rouse spoke for the Land Use Committee. He said that the first presentation re the Sea Watch discussions and vote from the CPAC to the Planning Commission was well received. He noted that the Land Use 101 Seminar is scheduled for March 31 from 10 a.m. to noon at the PCJWSA meeting room, and that the public is encouraged to attend. Beverly Fisher spoke for the Community Lighting Committee. She said they met on March 9 to discuss a survey to be sent out to gain information on the communities concerns regarding lighting, the test light shield near the Kiawanda Community Center, a map of street lights in the area, a letter to go out with building permits regarding the lighting possibilities and a possible local builder meeting to give information on lighting solutions. Carolyn McVicker asked if the CPAC could formally ask the county to give an educational information packet with each permit request. Larry Rouse suggested that the committee draft a brochure, letter or such for the CPAC to consider. It was mentioned that the Land Use Committee could add lighting to the criteria checklist for new developing. It was noted that any lighting suggestions would not be enforceable without an ordinance, and that Neskowin CPAC, along with other areas of the county are strongly in favor of some sort of ordinance. The test light cover at the street light on Cape Kiawanda Road in front of the Community Center was discussed, and it was suggested that Tillamook PUD be invited to one of the upcoming CPAC meetings to discuss options.

Bill Holmstrom spoke on the upcoming Land Use issues before the planning department. He said that the Sea Watch phase and clubhouse requests look like they will be approved. He said that the Goodman Group Wing Ridge plan was approved for 4 town homes near the Community Center. The Myerstein property has had no formal proposals, and that the area in questions is in the CPAC area of influence but goes beyond the boundary. He said that the CPAC would be one of the first to hear about any proposals for this property. The Foltz property also passes through and beyond the area of influence, but doesn't seem to be as far along in possible requests. Larry Rouse asked about Measure 37 claims, and Holmstrom said that the county has hired a part time paralegal to help with the 70 or so claims filed. He noted that if the claim is found to be valid it goes to the County Commissioners to either grant a waiver or pay compensation. He noted that there are no funds available for this, so he expects waivers to be issued in valid cases. The Tierra del Mar Golf Course proposal and measure 37 claim was brought up, and Holmstrom said that the case was having a hearing on Wednesday, March 21.

For the Good of the Order: Ilean Cox-Rouse asked about upcoming speakers. Anne Price said that the PCJWSA would be sending Tony Owens and 1-2 board members to the April meeting. Kathy Shellito asked that the Parks department be invited to a meeting to discuss public property within the area of influence. Donna Schuller said that a seal pup had been picked up on the beach, and wanted to warn everyone that they are not to be handled by humans. They are left there by their mothers who won't find them if they have been moved.

Beverley Fisher made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by George Kirkam and the vote was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Submitted by Cathy Rogers, Pacific City/Woods CPAC secretary