



NEWSLETTER



CITY OF YACHATS

May 2004

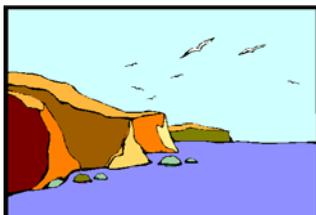
FROM THE MAYOR

PROGRESS FOR THE PARK

Last November a task force was formed for the purpose of developing a proposed plan for the 4.3 acres West of the Commons building. This area encompasses everything from the West wall of the building to the western most property line and from 4th street to 6th street. Over the years there have been a number of studies of this area but none of these have developed into an adopted "Master Plan" which will form the basis for future construction. This is what the task force is working on. The task force members have diverse backgrounds and knowledge to contribute to the project. Members are: Lee Corbin, Mayor, Cheryl Kraft, Don Niskanen, Friends of the Commons, Cy Kauffman, Chair of the Parks & Commons Commission, Leslie Carter, Parks & Commons Commission, David Schlessinger, Biologist, Paul Englemeyer, Audubon Society, Keith Kraft, Entomologist, Chad Link, Developer, Betty Bahn, Master Gardener, Jim Gerdemann, Botanist, Jim Adler, Sculptor, Ray Meehan, Yachats City Council Member, Mark Doyle, Excavating, and Larry Lewis, City Planner.

One of the first tasks undertaken by the task force has been to obtain an inventory of the park area. From this, a listing of all of the plant life, insects, mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians and an evaluation of water quality has been obtained. This inventory will assist in establishing what plants may need to be removed, what added and where water features may be introduced. Protection of identified wetland areas is at the top of the list along with maintenance of the "natural" feel of the park and preservation of the spruce grove on the West side of the property. These priorities coincide with past citizen surveys that identified those activities and characteristics most wanted by Yachats citizens. With this information in hand, the task force located and has employed Mr. John Stewart, Corvallis Landscape Architect to start the development of conceptual plans. Mr. Stewart is a former Oregon State University professor of landscape architecture and has established an active architectural practice specializing in municipal parks and trails. John brings a wealth of experience to us and is proving already to have thoughtful and creative ideas for our park area.

So where are we now? Within the next few weeks the task force will have evaluated a revised preliminary plan and be ready to present this for consideration to the Parks & Commons Commission who will arrange for a PUBLIC FORUM to obtain additional citizen input before adopting a final plan. Included within this plan will be suggestions obtained from the Youth Activities group who met with a portion of the task force to present their ideas for the park. The recommended plan will be forwarded to the City Council for adoption. Once this is accomplished, we will have a Park Master Plan, which will serve as the road map for park development. Since it is expected that development of the park area will be an evolutionary process, the "completed" park may well take several years. You can contribute to this process by attending the public forum and/or by bringing your ideas to any of the task force members. Use the link on the city website to access more information. www.ci.yachats.or.us



Bluff Protection Ordinance Continued to August Meeting

City Council continued their consideration of an Ordinance amending the Yachats Comprehensive

Plan Section 111.C. Protection of Shoreland Resources and the Yachats Municipal Code Section 9.52 for Ocean Bluff Protection to the August meeting.

In discussing the ordinance at the May meeting, Councilors expressed concerns about jurisdiction and enforcement and said that the City needs to be very careful of enacting ordinances that can not be enforced.

Councilor Yvonne Wulff said that the City has a responsibility to make it clear that the dumping of yard debris over the edge of the bluff is prohibited. Wulff further stated that the building code should be amended to ensure that the runoff is routed away from the bluff for new construction and projects that will substantially improve the property.

Councilor Smith said that while the City Council may not be ready to adopt an ordinance the City needs to move forward with the educational component, including signs urging people to stay off the environmentally sensitive bluff areas and private property. Smith suggested the City develop a brochure that could be distributed through the Visitors Center and at the various motels and transient rentals.

Councilor Joel Evans said that he did not believe the City Council was ready to move forward on this ordinance and that he would not support an ordinance that places significant restrictions on a small group of property owners that are not also applied to others. Evans also expressed that he had a concern about the land adjacent to Ocean View Drive from the State Park to the Landmark and would like to know who would have that jurisdiction before he makes any decision.

Mayor Lee Corbin stated that during a meeting he had with State Parks it became quite clear that it is not clear who has jurisdiction over what, especially when it comes to the estuary.

Between now and the August meeting City Council will confer with a representative from State Parks who has the authority to clearly delineate what their jurisdiction is, in writing.



May 16 - 22, 2004 Declared Emergency Medical Services Week

City Council adopted a Resolution declaring May 16 - 22 as EMS week and everyone in the community is encouraged to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies and activities.



City Council To Hold Budget Hearing

A meeting of the Yachats City Council will be held on June 10, 2004 at 2:00 p.m. in the Civic Meeting Room of the Yachats Commons. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2004 as approved by the Budget Committee. A copy of the budget may be inspected or obtained at Yachats City Hall, 441 Hwy. 101 N. between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.



Public Works Director's Report

By John McClintock

- The State Parks Department will be providing about \$270,000 to pave Yachats Ocean Road. The agreement is on the agenda today for City Council's approval.
- The contract for T-intersection at the south end of Yachats Ocean Road was awarded by ODOT.
- The work on the Library is underway.
- The water efficiency was about 75% this past month and the Second Street waterline has been completed and tested. Paving will be done later in the season.
- Dyer has been working on the facilities plan for the wastewater treatment plant.
- Work continues on the alarm system for the sewer collection system and should be done within the next couple of weeks.



New Web-based Survey Available

In April 2002 the City Council of Yachats earmarked a portion of the room (bed) tax collected to be used for visitor amenities and defined visitor amenities to include things such as, but not limited to, public restrooms, informative signage, trash receptacles, parks & trails, a visitor information center, and any other items that have substantial benefit to visitors, as determined by City Council.

Since that time there has been a lot of discussion about what City Council should be spending that money on. A survey was printed and provided to the motel operators and transient rental owners for distribution to their guests. However very few were returned. So now, that survey is available on-line!

Guests to the Yachats area can access the survey through the City website or a link on the newly created site at www.Yachats.info, which is an information-clearing house for all things Yachats.

Thanks to Greg Scott at www.Yachats.info and Oregon State University for their assistance in making this possible.

And look for future surveys on various other city related subjects.



July 4th Parade Scheduled

City Council approved the permit for the Chamber of Commerce Annual La De Da Parade to be held July 4th.

The parade route will start at the Commons and end near the Post Office. From the Commons it will proceed west on Fourth Street, turning south onto Ocean View, going through the State Park, continuing east, then turning North on Beach Ave.

Look for the City Council entry...YES, in the manure spreader again!

This year the parade will be kicked off by an Oregon Air Guard "fly-over". What better way to start the patriotic celebration?



Fireworks Committee Needs Help

The Fireworks Committee has a post office box you can mail your contributions to. P O Box 940, Yachats, OR 97498. For further details, you can call Katherine at (Coldwell Banker) 547-3171.



City Council Invites You

City Council will be hosting the 1st ever Downtown Business Forum and you are invited to attend. The Forum will include a brief presentation by the Director of a successful downtown association and then it will be your turn to let the Council know what you want for your downtown. Parking? Beautification? What will the Oregon Department of Transportation's plans for the Hwy. 101 overlay in 2006 mean to you? What about development? Here is your chance to have your say and hear what others have to say as well. Everyone is invited, with a focus on the downtown property owners and business owners.



City Council Endorses the Proposed Changes to the Solid Waste District (SWAC) Plan

Following months of review, consideration and discussion the consultants hired to look at SWAC have made the following recommendations:

- Integrate the District into an existing County Department and continue the surcharge as a funding mechanism.
- Lincoln County Haulers Association (LCHA) to designate an individual to serve as their Program Manager
- Continue to exceed the recovery goals
- Establish a permanent Household Hazardous Waste collection program
- Consider adoption of universal solid waste service standards
- Implement 2% credit programs offered by DEQ
- Increase curb side program involvement
- Implement a commercial waste reduction program
- Implement a school waste prevention program
- Expand existing wood and yard waste efforts and expand to a unified county-wide program
- Incorporate basic performance elements for each franchised area
- Evaluate the franchise renewal process
- Increase SWAC involvement in plan implementation
- Expand SWAC membership to include business representation
- SWAC consider new membership opportunities
- Regular reports to SWAC by District
- LCHA should investigate the feasibility of consolidating operations

City Council voted to support the plan as amended.



City Council Votes to Support a Public Safety and School Resource Officer Program Grant

Mayor Corbin explained that as a part of this program, if the grant is secured, the money would be used for an additional officer who would be assigned to the school; however they would be available to perform other duties about 25% of the time. However, some of the 75% dedicated to the schools could be used in relationship to the after school program or other school related functions that take place in Yachats. The rest of the time the person could perform regular police duties. The grant would be for three years but the sponsors would be asked to commit to the program for four years. The cost to the City of Yachats over the life of the program would be no more than about \$87,000 for the four-year program, or about \$22,000 per year.



In Other City Business

- City Council authorized an Intergovernmental Agreement with Oregon State Parks Department for improvements to Yachats Ocean Road
- Council referred a request from the Chamber of Commerce to shut down the Farmer's Market to the Parks and Commons Commission.
- Council approved a request from the employees that they be allowed to add alternative care to the health insurance plan at their expense.
- Council approved a request from the Public Works and Streets Commission for an additional \$2,350 to purchase a second speed monitoring unit.
- Council voted to support any Excessive Force Policy adopted and practiced by the Lincoln County Sheriff.
- City Council voted to request all keys to the Commons be returned by a specified time.



COMMONS NEWS

By Susan Garner

Commons Coordinator

The Yachats Commons has been the recipient of some very wonderful new kitchen equipment. Judith McDonald, from Judith's Kitchen Tools, donated some very fine tools, including a high-tech can opener and new measuring cups, with the proceeds from the latest cooking class she sponsored. The Friends of the Yachats Commons went on a major buying spree and purchased new pots and pans, cutting boards, lots of new wooden spoons and utensils. These new items make the kitchen all the more ready for your family reunion, wedding reception or party. Rent for the kitchen is still very reasonable. Contact me at 547-4734 to find out more.

Recently someone came to the Commons for an event and while cleaning up, asked if he could play our upright piano that sits in Room 5. I assured him it was for the community and would like to extend that invitation to everyone who is taking piano lessons, wants to practice what they know, or simply enjoys playing the piano. If you come into the Commons when the door to Room 5 is locked, ask me for a key or ask Paula or Joy in city hall. They are very obliging.

The Commons is also available, free of charge, to those who want to play basketball in the gym. A group of young adults play in there on Mondays and Thursdays at 6:30 pm (as long as the gym is not being used for other things). Any adult or teen over 16 can come in whenever the building is open and the gym is not being used. We also have basketball hoops outside the back of the building.

As a community center, this place is busy. But it would be great if it were busier still. Our stage is waiting for a theater group to make use of it, and there are still hours in the days when the rooms

could accommodate meetings, workshops and classes. Give me a call if you have any ideas.

Budget Comparison - Fiscal Year July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004		
<i>Reporting Through</i>	<i>5/31/04</i>	
Program	Budget	Year to Date
General Administration	\$542,118	\$460,592
Library	\$16,503	\$13,953
Little Log Church & Museum	\$8,423	\$4,453
Parks & Commons*	\$86,905	\$67,114
Streets	\$138,613	\$103,632
Water	\$510,600	\$412,024
Sewer	\$351,138	\$298,469
In Reserve for Future Uses	\$1,649,360	\$1,010,670
Debt	\$128,426	\$96,207
	\$3,432,086	\$2,467,114



Book Sale

The Friends of the Yachats Public Library will hold its first book sale Saturday, May 29th at the Library from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Items will include both hard-bound and paperback books culled from the Library shelves as well as books that have been donated by patrons. Proceeds from the sale will be used to benefit the Yachats Library.

Hard-bound books in like new condition will be individually priced. Books from the bargain tables will be sold "by the bag".

The Library is located at 560 West 7th Street in Yachats. Regular hours are 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. weekdays and 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Saturdays.

The Friends of Yachats Library is a new non-profit organization formed to promote interest in library services, support improvement of library resources and services, and to raise funds for special needs beyond the scope of the library budget.

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