



NEWSLETTER



CITY OF YACHATS

November/December 2006

Visit www.ci.yachats.or.us for the minutes of City Council and Commission meetings

From Instructions for Life from the Dalai Lama:
"Follow the three Rs:
Respect for self
Respect for others
Responsibility for all your actions."



MAYOR'S MESSAGE COMMUNITY

What is "Community"? What does it mean to each of us? The dictionary suggests that it is: "a unified body of individuals"; or "people with common interests living in a particular area"; or "an interacting population of various kinds of individuals"; or "joint ownership or participation"; or "a group of people with a common characteristic or interest living together within a larger society"; or "a body of persons..... having a common history or common social, economic, and political interests". I would suspect that there are perhaps as many definitions of community as there are people attempting to pin the concept down. Another reference defines community as "a group of people with common interests, fellowship or origins, living in the same locality under the same government."

A source from which I read regularly talks about Community in this way:

- Good is gleaned by like minds and interests coming together.
- We are provided opportunity to be at our best when we serve a common cause.
- Inspiration comes from individuals whose

- interests are similar to ours.
- As "many hands make light work", many minds make for creative vision.
- As elders, we relish community more than any other time in life.
- Whatever one's interests, service, or spiritual needs, gather together and stay connected.

Is Yachats a community in any/all of those senses? I submit that it is and that an opportunity to celebrate that is presenting itself after the New Year. Please plan to join your friends and neighbors in our Community Celebration on January 20th in the multi-purpose room at the Commons from 7 - 11 P.M.. The theme is "Yachats: Past, Present, and Future"; each person/couple/family attending is asked to bring a light snack to share. Beverages will be provided.

Let's celebrate all that is good and right about Yachats!



Planning Commission Openings

The Yachats Planning Commission is the key group that addresses growth and development for the City. It is obligated to function under Oregon law. There are two terms expiring the end of December and another vacancy being created by one of the member's election to City Council. Now is a good time for your voice to be heard. If you live in the City limits and have an interest in planning, growth and development, please fill out an application at City Hall and submit it by December 18, 2006. This will enable the Planning Commission to interview you and pass their recommendations along to City Council for their January meeting. This will enable the Commission to continue its very important work

City of Yachats
P O Box 345
Yachats, OR 97498

541-547-3565
Fax - 541-547-3063
e-mail - cityhall@ci.Yachats.or.us
www.ci.yachats.or.us

"seamlessly".



FOOD AND BEVERAGE TAX RECEIVES FIRST APPROVAL

Following a public hearing on November 9th, City Council voted on adoption of the Food and Beverage Tax Ordinance. The vote on the ordinance was not unanimous, so it will require a second vote at their December meeting.

City Council began talking about this tax as a possible way to pay a part of the annual payments on the loan for the sewer plant earlier this year following a recommendation from the Green Ribbon Task Force. City Council has received a lot of input, both at previous meetings and in writing after articles in were published in previous newsletters and on the website.

The 5% tax will be on all prepared food and non-alcoholic beverages served in restaurants and purchased from the deli section of the local market beginning July 1, 2007.

The total annual payment will be about \$600,000. It is anticipated the tax will raise about \$200,000. The balance of the payment will be raised from the Urban Renewal District contributions, System Development Charges, a portion of the transient rental taxes, user fees, and property taxes. Without the tax a larger amount would have to be raised from the user fees and/or property taxes.



The City is very pleased to have the Yachats Youth and Family Activities program back in the Commons Building and to, once again, hear the happy chatter and see children on the playground.

City of Yachats
P O Box 345
Yachats, OR 97498

Over the last few months, several YYFAP staff experienced intermittent symptoms of sickness. They believed the symptoms might have been linked to indoor air quality. In order to ensure the health and safety of the children they served, staff, and volunteers, the YYFAP board decided not to operate inside the Commons building until it had been checked out by environmental health investigators from outside experts including OR-OSHA (Oregon Occupational Safety & Health Division.). The Yachats Community Presbyterian Church generously offered them space for their programs.

Following their visit OSHA made a report in which they stated that they could not find any problem with the air quality but they made some general recommendations in order to offer increased protection to users of the building.

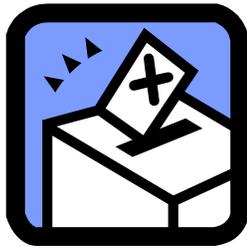
Extra careful precautions were taken by the City to ensure that the building is absolutely safe for all users, which is really not all that unusual, since the City always wants a safe environment for all the people who work and spend time in the Commons. We appreciate everyone's patience and diligence while adjustments were made to everyone's satisfaction. Welcome home!



WORKFORCE/AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Is this a topic that interests or concerns you? Should Yachats address this? How? Plan to attend an important discussion about this on January 16, 2007 at 5:30 p.m. in the Civic Meeting Room. Ideas, comments, and suggestions would all be welcome ahead of this meeting by submitting them in writing to the Mayor and/or the Planning Commission before the meeting. This is an important conversation and input is desired and valued.

541-547-3565
Fax - 541-547-3063
e-mail - cityhall@ci.Yachats.or.us
www.ci.yachats.or.us



CITY COUNCIL NOW AUTHORIZED TO PROVIDE A STATEMENT IN THE VOTERS PAMPHLET

City Council adopted Ordinance 261 – Authorizing the City to Submit an Explanatory Statement for the Lincoln County Voters Pamphlet for Matters Submitted Under the Referendum or Initiative Process.

Until the ordinance was adopted, the City was able to submit an explanatory statement only if the matter on the ballot was a direct referral by the City Council. This ordinance authorizes the City Recorder or City Attorney to draft an explanatory statement for City Council approval in cases where a ballot measure is placed on the ballot by citizens if that ballot measure deals with local municipal legislation.

The reason this came up is because recently another city in Oregon adopted an ordinance relating to franchise fees. A group referred that ordinance to the voters, and when the city tried to submit an explanatory statement for the voters pamphlet the County Clerk refused to publish it because it was not a direct city action. Recorders all over the state have been working with their councils to get the necessary authorization in place.



CITY COUNCIL APPROVES GRANT APPLICATION

Based on a recommendation from the Trailheads Task Force, City Council approved an application for trail work to fund the design and construction of a pedestrian trail from Yachats Ocean Road (south end at Hwy. 101) to the Amanda Trail. This would provide a pedestrian connection from Yachats to Cape Perpetua and

provide a missing link of the existing Oregon Coast Trail.

The Trailheads Task Force also recommended that the existing Comprehensive Plan/Village Circulation Plan maintain the plan for the Bayview Terrace pedestrian connection, however not pursue implementation of this trail at this time. The Trailheads Task Force recommends the following additional pedestrian routes in order to provide alternatives that are safe, provide different walking experiences, and may be implemented in the short term:

1. Continue the pedestrian system around the curve on the west side of Hwy. 101 to the Yachats River Bridge. This would be a year-around pedestrian trail connecting the south side of Yachats to and from downtown.
2. From the sanitary sewer pump station, continue the trail west over the existing riprap to the beach, then south/southeast along the beach to the bridge, connecting to the proposed trail that extends north/northeast to the intersection of Hwy. 101 and Bayview Terrace. This would be a seasonal trail dependent upon the weather and tides. The existing sanitary sewer easement from Hwy. 101 west to the pump station would need to be updated and expanded (by the city attorney) to include public pedestrian access from Hwy. 101 to the beach.
3. Continue the trail under the bridge to connect to the Yachats River trail system within the Quiet Water Planned Development.
4. Add a crosswalk across Hwy. 101 at Lori Lane.

City Council referred the comp plan amendments to the Planning Commission to be

City of Yachats
P O Box 345
Yachats, OR 97498

541-547-3565
Fax - 541-547-3063
e-mail - cityhall@ci.Yachats.or.us
www.ci.yachats.or.us

looked at as part of the review they are currently working on.



PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

by John McClintock

- Yachats received between 11 and 12 inches of rain in 36 hours early in November and more since. Treating water that is this turbid is difficult, but the water plant has handled it.
- The park side sewer pump station was not able to keep up with the hydraulic load during one of the early November storm events and the flow started coming up from the manholes and into the bay. It was a violation, and therefore the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) was notified. Yachats was actually very fortunate that the spill was minor considering all of the problems going on throughout the State that week.
- Tim McFetridge of the DEQ met with Dyer on December 11 to review the sewer system plans prior to formal submittal. The plans and specifications were about 90% complete at that time. This should expedite the formal review process.
- The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) did not finish cleaning out the ditches near the bridge when they finished the paving project. That contributed to the flooding on Bay View Terrace. City crewmembers cleaned it out, and so everything is all right now.



COMMONS NEWS

By Susan Garner, Commons Coordinator

The end of the year is coming up and it was a great one in terms of activities and events here at the old community center. The arts and crafts shows were amazing, we had some great music here, from classical piano to Celtic to ragtime. There were writers' workshops and healing arts fairs, weddings and reunions, youth activities and senior luncheons. It was a great year for the community and our community center.

Next year should be just as good. There is a great lineup of events already. January will host the mayor's inaugural potluck and the Lions' Club crab dinner. February will bring us the barbershop quartet concert again, a health clinic dinner and the Oregon Coast Chamber Orchestra. And it goes on and on.

Right now, Job Corps is in the midst of pulling down our beat-up ceiling tiles in the multipurpose room. The Friends of the Commons, with a grant from the Village Music Foundation, will replace the tiles with new ones that will be better for basketball and volleyball. It is a good thing to live in a community where volunteers just take the lead and get things done.

Speaking of volunteers, many thanks to all the folks who helped put native plants in the ground around the wetlands area behind the Commons a few weeks ago. The weather held up and the plants went in quickly. Hopefully

<i>Reporting Through October 31, 2006</i>		
Program	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
General Administration	\$707,453	\$446,626
Library	\$17,603	\$6,619
Little Log Church & Museum	\$12,175	\$6,520
Parks & Commons*	\$97,093	\$44,869
Streets	\$129,234	\$53,768
Water	\$473,507	\$175,610
Sewer	\$6,219,536	\$296,278
In Reserve for Future Uses	\$2,056,246	\$1,689,827
Debt	<u>\$134,855</u>	<u>\$1,000</u>
	<u>\$9,847,702</u>	<u>\$2,721,117</u>

City of Yachats
 P O Box 345
 Yachats, OR 97498

541-547-3565
 Fax - 541-547-3063
 e-mail - cityhall@ci.Yachats.or.us
 www.ci.yachats.or.us

they will take root and provide a contrast to the blackberries we've had back there.

Coming up in December, the Oregon Coast Chamber Orchestra plays here on the 1st at 7pm and the Yachats Big Band will hold another great dance on the 7th at 7pm. The Lunch Bunch, senior luncheon is also on the 7th at 12 noon. The folks who brought you the farmer's market all summer long will host a crafts fair on the 9th of December. The Waldport High School is putting on an evening of improvisational skits on the 8th of the month. There will be a Solstice Dance on the 16th of December, beginning at 6:30 pm. And on the 17th, the Pacific Wind Ensemble is performing a holiday concert.

Besides those special events, we have exercise classes Monday-Friday at 10 am. Yoga at 8 am on Tuesdays and Fridays.

Remember, this is your community center. Support the people who bring you great entertainment and enlightenment, and if you have an idea for an event that you want to put together, call me at 547-4734.

Happy Holidays.

WINTER TIPS

- Insulating your pipes is usually thought of in the winter to keep them from freezing...but that same insulation will pay off for you in the summer as well. When hot water pipes are insulated, the water standing in the them will remain warm longer, requiring less time to get hot water at the faucets, and less cold water goes down the drain.
- With winter here many people will be off "on the road again"! If you are going to be leaving your home unoccupied while you travel, the water should be turned off at the hand valve to prevent cold weather damage to your plumbing and depletion of the water supply. City Code requires a hand valve on the homeowner's side of the meter for just that reason.
- Removing handles on outside faucets will make it difficult for any unauthorized or accidental use while you are away.



**PASSPORT APPLICATIONS ARE
AVAILABLE AT YACHATS CITY HALL.**

**Please call Yachats City Hall to
make an appointment
at 547-3565**

Applications are available at Yachats City Hall. You may fill out the application prior to submitting it, by leave it unsigned. You will need sign it in the presence of the City Recorder.

Also bring with you the following items:

- 2 identical passport pictures (2" by 2" in size). Pictures must meet passport office specifications.
- A current State drivers license will be required. If a child is under the age of 16 (or does not have a drivers license), a parent's drivers license will be used.
- A **certified** birth certificate **or** a passport issued previously.
- A certified check, money order or personal check, payable to the SEATTLE PASSPORT AGENCY in either of the following amounts:
 - \$52.00 (age 15 and under) - Passports valid 5 years
 - \$67.00 (age 16 and over) - Passports valid 10 years
- A separate fee, cash or check payable to the City of Yachats in the amount of \$25.00.

If your most recent passport was issued after your 16th birthday, and was issued within the past 15 years you may renew your passport by mail using FORM DSP-82. This form is available at Yachats City Hall.

EXPEDITE SERVICE

Expedited service is available. The fee is \$60.00 per passport. Passports will be processed within 3 business days after receipt by a passport agency. This does not include the express mail fees each way.

City of Yachats
P O Box 345
Yachats, OR 97498

541-547-3565
Fax - 541-547-3063
e-mail - cityhall@ci.Yachats.or.us
www.ci.yachats.or.us