

Larkspur Board Meeting Minutes - January 17, 2022

In attendance: Molly McDowell, Kristin Wills, Katherine Rola, Marty Decker, Diane Berry, Morgan Schmidt, Sue Sullivan, Kelsie Greer

Meeting begins: 6:00pm

Old business:

- **Land Use (Sue/Kat)**- Major land use projects happening or upcoming in the Larkspur neighborhood:
 - **Bear Creek Commons Apartments:** 176 apartments in six buildings are planned for the northwest corner of Bear Creek and Pettigrew. A public hearing is planned for January 19th to amend the zoning for the property to allow for standard RM (medium density residential) density and building height. Project number is [PLMISC20211043](#)
 - **Wildflower development** - 15th Street southeast of Wilson: No recent activity on this project; application has still not been filed. We made some inquiries about the need for speed control measures on Bronzewood to slow down cut-through traffic, but are awaiting an application so we can file comments. [PLPRE20210804](#)
 - **Affordable housing east of UGB** - between Bear Creek and Highway 20, east of Dantili. The developer held a neighborhood public meeting December 16th, and there was good discussion with neighbors. The developer must still submit a master plan for the area.
 - **Franklin Ave mixed use development in BCD** - This is the 'Blue Dog RV' site. A neighborhood public meeting was planned in December but was canceled; meeting has not been rescheduled as of today.
 - **Daly Estates Subdivision**: This is separate from the seven parcels already planned for development into townhomes; this most recent proposal is to divide a RL (low density residential) lot into ten lots for townhomes, while leaving the existing duplex in place. A preapplication meeting was held with light turnout.
 - **Homeless camp proposed for 9th street:** No update as to the status of this is available. Numerous inquiries to City Staff went unanswered (more info below).

- **Other land use issues:**
 - **Short term rentals** and their impact on housing affordability is a hot topic among the Land Use Network Group. The City is gathering data on STRs and the Land Use group is also compiling data.
 - There is a **planning commission meeting on January 24th** to consider amendments to the Bend Development Code to allow for group shelters, multi-room shelters, outdoor shelters, temporary shelters and hardship shelters in nearly every zone of the City. There is an opportunity for us to submit public comments before the meeting. The proposed code changes can be accessed on the City of Bend Website and also are available [here](#).

- **NLA** (Morgan) - Continuing to have conversations around DEI. Identifying challenges and successes around the NLAs. Brainstorming about how to have more diverse voices at the table. Asking for representatives to sit on a limited duration workgroup around property tax exemptions to encourage affordable /middle housing. (Sue)- Recent code changes have been giving breaks to developers. Needs to be some way to pass that savings on to the property dweller.

- **Transportation** (Diane/Sue) - Going to set up a time to talk about the Pettigrew situation and to introduce Diane to Makayla Oliver and Robin Lewis. An open house for the Wilson Ave. project was hosted in December and they have asked to be on our agenda to update us on the plans. (Diane)- suggestion made that maybe could ask for a speed control mechanism on Pettigrew. (Sue)- they are having a hearing for Bear Creek code changes but not open for comments yet.

- **Communications/membership** (Molly/Kristin/Marty/Leah)- Need to divide up the work. Monthly updates, etc. (Kristin)- suggested the communications team meet at another time to sort out responsibilities.

- **Web page** (Molly) - Would like to link facebook page to the website in order to easily keep social media up to date. All communications board members to be made admin of the facebook page. Molly is working on ways to make the webpage even more user friendly with up to date blog posts, and accessible meeting minutes and meeting Zoom links.

- **Good Samaritan program** (Molly) - Somebody needed help and they got it. Hooray! Not sure if old relationships are going on but new relationships are coming in. Morgan will share on her networks.
- **Minutes/Budget** (Kelsie) - no updates
- **Action items from the last meeting:**
 - Updated board bios are now on the Larkspur website: <https://www.larkspurneighborhoodassociation.com/meet-the-board> -
 - Monthly meetings and possible use of Larkspur Center - not currently booking meetings. Will continue to do Zoom for now.

New business:

- **Possible sponsoring of cleanup activity** (Sue) - Larkspur was contacted through Makayla Oliver because Emily Kotaich is interested in organizing a cleanup activity and was looking for some sponsorship. What is it that she is looking for in the way of help. Looks like the Bend Beautification Project is looking for a city-wide cleanup day in May. Sue will get in touch with Cheryl Howard and find out what the plans are. Kat added that the Environmental Center has a trash program that has a sorting station. She will reach out to them to see if they can help us coordinate stations.
- **Goals for 2022:** What do we want to take on as a group? - Transportation issues around Pettigrew, Connecting with local businesses, possible cleanup activity, getting some face-time with the community.
- **DEI training-** Had a session in December. (Sue)- Powerful exercise at the end running people through their past experiences and privilege.
- **Getting people set up with new emails and handing off roles** - leave it up to the individuals to set a time to do the transfer. Ariel might have to do the membership email handoff. Molly can email her and get that connected. Need to add transportation to the general email that goes out to the board.
- **Update on homeless camp on 9th;** do we want to write any comments on the proposed code changes?
(Link:

<https://www.bendoregon.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/51868/637769016205000000>)

Sue tried emailing, texting, and calling Carolyn Egan and has not received a response. Morgan added that there is no plan yet. Without a plan in place there is nothing for us to comment on. The RFPs that came in were not site specific and do not look like they were looking to be located at the 9th location. Going to sit tight until we hear something/ have information to share. Put something in the next newsletter and website blog that there are no updates at this time. Sue can help draft this.

- **Proposed code changes for putting in homeless shelters of various sorts across Bend (Sue).** There are different categories of housing (group, multi-room, camp situations, RVs, etc) with requirements for each of these types. Permanent and temporary. DON't have a good feel for what the community is thinking because the comments are so hard to get through. Trying to make it less of an obstacle for people to help other people. Any residential area that has some kind of public or commercial use could put in a permanent shelter and would not require a special permit. One thing they do require is communication, aka have to have a good neighbor policy, the entity on board has to manage that process. Don't know enough about this particular thing to make a recommendation one way or another. Earlier comments are made the better- important that the comments are specific. Some aspects of it are bypassing the permit process. Got something from Pauline Hardy who is on the city staff, that has a better explanation that Sue will send out. This includes the dates for public hearings.

Action item: Everyone read the plan. Draft something to put on Facebook on how and where to make comments.

- **How can we connect with local businesses?** - Metolius tea is interested in supporting the neighborhood in some way. Connecting with the businesses help foster a sense of community. Support your neighborhood brew shop, coffeeshop, etc. Sue is going to ask Mckayla for a list of businesses in our neighborhood.

Meeting adjourned- 7:10pm.