

Larkspur Board meeting Minutes - October 17, 2022

Meeting begin: 6:07pm

Guest Speaker: Steve Cook, Superintendent of Bend-LaPine Schools regarding **bond measure 9-155** that is on the November ballot.

Lay of the land in the school district- 33 schools across the district plus two charter schools. Second largest employer in Central Oregon at 2,100 staff members. Teachers average about 15 years of experience.

Steady increase in graduation rate in the past ten years, last year they were at 82 percent. Roughly 1,300 graduated last year.

30 career technical education programs. Offer robust elective choices.

Goals:

- Strong academic foundation
- Emphasis on how to think critically and can grapple with questions/ information
- Send students into their next step with intentionality
- Want people to feel like they belong in school

Construction Bond

Not only about Bend High, every school benefits. Committee whittled it down to 89 projects within 4 categories:

- Safety and security improvements- ex: every door is a locking door, but there are new door lock systems that allow people to see if the door is locked and anyone can lock it, do not have to have a key. Also upgrading fire safety systems
- 3 million sf of schools across the district (1.7 billion community resources)- investing in new roofs, HVAC, etc
- Modernizing instructional spaces
- Reconstruction of Bend High- improve the spaces that were constructed in the 1950s.

Benefits

- No expected increase in taxes
- Qualify for 8 million match from the State
- Sustain jobs in our community
- BLS.fyi/bond for the list of projects
- Instagram: @yesforbendlapineschools

Melissa Barnes Dholakia (school board)- wants to be sure that the existing schools are getting the same updates and benefits as the new schools that have been built for the new developments

- Have yard signs, bumper stickers, literature, etc.

Questions: Hoping that there might be a pool on the table for Bend LaPine Schools. A: Unfortunately it did not make this cut but hoping to make it on future project lists.

Public comments:

Tamara Houston- volunteering with commute options- walking school bus, needs volunteers for Healy Heights group. 30 min maximum time commitment. Attendance rates of kids who are a part of the school bus go way up. More info: <https://www.commuteoptions.org/>

Old business:

Reports from board positions

- **Minutes/Budget** (Kelsie)- Minutes from Sept. and October to go out this week
- **NLA** (Morgan)- Morgan is currently acting chair for the NLA. Five new members from the different neighborhoods. Big topic of conversation right now is the new City camping code. Only the draft from Sept. 21st so far. Hoping to have something in the palace by the end of the year. There has been discussion about where camping will be allowed and will not be allowed, and so far it is planned that it will not be allowed in residential neighborhoods. Tamara- concerned that they cannot tow or ticket so the extent is that they can only say that they are not allowed to be there.
- **Communications** (Kristin)- Would like to put some funds behind the advertising of board elections. Sue: Mikayla from the city said that they would be willing to put some funding behind it. An anonymous letter came into the mailbox regarding concerns around a vacant lot, Sue went and looked at the lot and it did not seem too concerning but perhaps it had already been cleaned up?
- **Membership** (Marty)- Nothing to report. Will work on postcards in the next couple of days.
- **Web page** (Molly)- No updates.
- **Transportation** (Diane)- One of our goals was to improve safety on Pettigrew. We have been in communication with the City, Janet Hruby said it is too soon to put out a survey as it is too soon to know if there will be funding for any of the small projects. Better to have the survey target things that could actually be done.
- **Land Use** (Sue)- Two public meetings this month, one was about the urban growth boundary expansion north of bear creek and east of livingston, no new information, just had to give a public meeting since it had been more than six months since the last one. The other meeting, there is a permanent affordable housing going in for people with medical issues, land is owned by neighbor impact, between 4th and 5th North of Reed Market, Cleveland Commons. Will have 33 units.

New business:

- **ODOT**- Reed Market Interchange Project: we're looking for someone interested in representing Larkspur in an advisory group to provide input on this project. There is a

commitment to participate in three meetings: November 21, March 7, May 9. Could be someone from the board or someone from the neighborhood.

- **A reminder that Candidate Forums are coming up -**

- October 20, 6:30 PM, County Government Room- County Commissioner positions
- October 24, 6:30 PM, Larkspur Center -City Council: Positions 4 and 5
- October 26, 6:30 PM, Larkspur Center - City Council: Mayor and Position 6

- November General Meeting - firm up agenda; current list of topics:

Garrett Sabourin from the Transportation bond Oversight Committee - upcoming transportation projects in the Larkspur Neighborhood

Nicky Merritt - update on Central Oregon Villages- changed their design a bit, are further along in the process. Will see if we can get visuals to share.

Summary of our goals and what we've accomplished in the past year. Good to frame where we are as a neighborhood.

Elections

Next month: November 17: general meeting (zoom)

November 21: brief meeting to introduce new board members

No meeting in December.

Meeting Adjourn: 7:31pm

Goals for 2022:

- Work on possible solutions for transportation safety issues on Pettigrew
- Connect with local businesses
- Neighborhood cleanup activity
- Figure out a way to have more contact and connection with the community