

LETTERS

Continued from page 6

decision. Perhaps it is not a matter of hiring a painting crew to eliminate the existing lines and paint new ones? Does it require an environmental study; a special committee; or State approval? To earn trust Mr. Mayor, some semblance of rational judgment must be exhibited.

Del Heller

Editor's note: Andrew Gorayeb is city manager of Sisters, not mayor.

To the Editor:

At Senator Ron Wyden's Town Hall Friday, January 2, he made the statement; "There is no Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP)," meaning, I suppose, that it has not been finalized yet.

He also stated that he was for transparency of this secret agreement, yet his statement flies in the face of transparency. He made it clear that the congress must bring this to a vote and indicated that this would be a "Fast Track" vote, which effectively bars public input and debate. This is not what I call transparency. We need to know that our Congressional delegates oppose bringing the Trans-Pacific Partnership to a "Fast Track" vote.

This is the first trade agreement negotiated in complete secrecy. As many as 600 corporate representatives from Wall Street, big pharma, dirty energy, the military, the chemical industry, etc. have been at the table, leaving the rest of us out. The only thing we know about the TPP is from documents leaked from Wikileaks.

Only recently, after demanding access, has Congress been allowed to read texts in a "secure" room. They are not allowed to take notes or discuss content publicly. Congress only has 90 days under Fast Track to read an immensely complex and several-thousand-page text, and it stipulates only a yes or no vote. There are no committee hearings and no amendments.

We must demand a 21st Century-style trade policy that puts people and planet first before Corporate Profits. Senators, preserve democracy — oppose Fast Track Authority.

Thiel Larson

To the Editor:

Our new Mayor Chris Frye's words "The concentrated effort of a few to cast aspersion, attack character, and question integrity on a personal level is what is causing these individuals to leave or think about leaving" was a new low point in the politics of Sisters.

Perhaps Mayor Frye should have first reviewed the body of evidence in the Wild Mountain discrimination lawsuit, and in particular, listen to the public-record recordings of several Planning Commission meetings where members of both the Planning Commission and Planning Department attacked my character and personally vilified me in a manner reminiscent of children in a school yard, rather than conducting themselves with the expected character of professional adults and officials representing the City of Sisters. Had he done so he might have found reason to reflect before making the statements defending the people he did in the January 28 *Nugget* article, "Major Shakeup in City Planning."

In my opinion Mr. Holzeman (sic), Mr. Porter, Ms. Hardie, Mr. Bryant and others have earned the mistrust and animosity being directed at them by their own word and deed. I have experienced first-hand the repercussions of their actions. Mayor Frye's deriding of critics demonstrates his lack of ability to effectively lead through the mess he both inherited, and contributed to when he finalized the issue by declaring the food cart decision will stand without review.

Mayor Frye, at the start of each Council meeting you lead the pledge of allegiance to our country's flag, we live in a democracy that was founded on the principle of free speech and a citizen's right to criticize our government. The expectation of criticism you so despise comes with the job. If you don't like the heat, either rise to the challenge and lead the community out of this mess, or get out of the kitchen. But don't you cast aspersion towards those citizens of our community bravely exercising their rights guaranteed under the constitution of this country!

Ky Karnecki

City seeks volunteers for planning, budget

The City of Sisters is accepting applications for one "out-of-city" volunteer to serve out the remaining term of a Planning Commission position vacated by the resignation of Cort Horner last month. The term expires in June 2018.

The planning commission's purpose is to review major land-use applications; advise the City Council on planning policies as well as needed changes to the comprehensive plan and development code.

The planning commission regularly meets in Sisters City Hall at 5:30 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month. There may be additional meetings scheduled and sub-committee assignments.

The City of Sisters encourages interested parties to apply for the opening by completing an application by 5 p.m. on Friday, February 20.

Applications are available at Sisters City Hall,

520 E. Cascade Ave., or visit the City's website at www.ci.sisters.or.us. Send applications and résumés to: Community Development Department (attn: Pauline Hardie, Community Development Director), P.O. Box 39, Sisters, OR 97759. For additional information call Pauline Hardie at 541-323-5208.

The City of Sisters is also accepting applications for two volunteers to fill three-year terms on the City of Sisters Budget Committee. To be eligible, a candidate must be a registered voter and live in the city limits. The City's budget committee typically holds two to three meetings in May. An advisory committee application is available at City Hall, or at www.ci.sisters.or.us. Application deadline is March 4. For more information contact Lynne Fujita-Conrads, Finance Officer, at 541-323-5222 or at lconrads@ci.sisters.or.us.

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