

Mayor's Corner December, 2019

New Residents. Please welcome to town our new residents: Kevin and Mardell Smith; Clayton and Michelle Barnett.

Public Meeting: Kick off for Land Acquisition. It was an amazing meeting and we thank the approximately 50 people (over 10% of the population) who attended. Oregon Solutions felt that it was the best public meeting they had seen. They wished it had been videotaped as a learning tool for others. Alex Campbell of Regional Solutions moderated the meeting. We opened with a discussion of the goals and vision and then had three breakout sessions (1. Land & Forestry, 2. recreation, and 3. Education & Research) followed by a sharing of findings and then two more breakout sessions (1. Community Vision & Economic Development and 2. Governance, outreach and logistics). We met together as a whole to share work of the groups and close. The ideas proposed helped clarify the issues and offered innovative solutions. The notes of the sessions are available at City Hall.

We will be scheduling another public meeting in January and will continue to schedule them to elicit input as the project advances. Please come we need to hear your voice.

Tours of the land to be acquired. We will be offering tours of the land with explanations of the plans being formulated for its use each month. Check the bulletin boards around town and our Facebook page for tours scheduled for each month.

Ford Foundation Grant. We received a grant from the Ford Foundation to supply the matching money required from the town for the work of Oregon Solutions. Oregon Solutions is an arm of the Governor's Office and is assisting us in the planning and developing management and funding structures for the community forest acquisition. Their work is funded by the governor's office with matching funds from the town.

Planning Commission Grant. We received a grant from the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development to assist in the work of the Commission.

December Recess. The Council normally recesses in August and in December. We will not have a council meeting in December unless there is urgent business that requires Council deliberation.

Respectfully,

Linda Spencer, Mayor
Town of Butte Falls