

Workforce housing project approved for Seaside



R.J. Marx/The Daily Astorian
A roadway already in place at Blue Heron Pointe.

Commissioners impose several conditions

By R.J. MARX
The Daily Astorian

SEASIDE — Blue Heron Pointe cleared a hurdle as the 59-lot, single-family proposal won conditional Seaside Planning Commission approval Tuesday night.

After a verbal decision early this month, a draft of the plan came before the commission with changes and updates. “This is putting the decision in writing,” City Planner Kevin

Cupples said. The 2,000-square-foot homes will provide workforce housing, owner Max Ritchie said earlier this month, with prices in the low \$300,000 and high \$200,000 range.

Blue Heron Pointe began in the early 2000s, going so far as to win preliminary approval in 2006.

After a downturn in the economy, the project was shelved until late 2016, when the Ritchies presented a 45-unit multifamily proposal. That plan stalled over a requirement for a sidewalk along Wahanna Road.

This month, the commission added 19 conditions, including a request for a hazard mitiga-

tion plan and requirement for infrastructure approvals. Emergency vehicle access, hydrants and fire flow will need inspection from the city fire marshal.

Lots along Cooper Street have been added into the project’s second construction phase to limit potential conflicts with pedestrian and bike traffic.

The site plan also addresses the building of sidewalks on Avenue S and design requirements.

On Tuesday, the Planning Commission voted 4-2 to approve the plan with conditions. Chris Hoth, the commission’s chairman, and commissioners Bill Carpenter, Teri Carpenter and David Posalski voted for the plan. Richard Ridout and Lou Neubecker voted against. Ray Romine was absent.

Planning Commission decisions may be appealed to the City Council.

Audit suggests tweaks to tax system

By CLAIRE WITHYCOMBE
Capital Bureau

SALEM — State auditors have found that Oregon’s new tax processing system works well, but that the Department of Revenue could take extra precautions to protect taxpayers’ personal information.

The findings are something of a bright spot for the state’s beleaguered Department of Revenue, which has been under the Legislature’s microscope.

Last year, lawmakers sought a comprehensive review of the department’s operations, including a financial audit and management assessment, and have told the department to report regularly to the Legislature on its progress.

In addition to the processing system audit released Wednesday morning, the Oregon Secretary of State’s Office also plans to audit the agency’s governance and culture within the next year.

Since 2013, the revenue department has been standing up GenTax, an off-the-shelf, integrated tax processing system developed by FAST Enterprises.

The project was intended to update the state’s decades-old tax software and databases. According to the governor’s 2017-19 recommended budget, the total cost of the new system is \$78 million.

Overall, auditors say the new system works well, but there are some weaknesses:

- The agency can do a better job monitoring who has access to GenTax. For instance, the audit recommended that the agency remove access rights for department employees, employees of other state agencies or contractors when their employment is terminated. Access lists are reviewed about once a month, but there’s no regular schedule for that review.

- The Department of Revenue hasn’t sought an independent security review of the outside contractor, FAST Data Services, that analyzes Oregonians’ personal income tax return data. The GenTax system sends encrypted data to servers at an external data center to be analyzed by FAST. While the department discussed security measures with the contractor’s security personnel, auditors recommended getting a third party to confirm that the security controls are sufficient.

- GenTax system files are backed up, but there’s no guarantee that the state could restore the system in the event of a disaster or major disruption. Backup files are kept off site, but the agency hasn’t tested the process to restore GenTax and data files.

David Oldham Poindexter

Portland

Jan. 30, 1929 — Feb. 8, 2018

David Oldham Poindexter, a Methodist minister who championed the use of radio and television serial dramas to promote family planning, gender equity and protection of the environment, died peacefully Feb. 8 at St. Vincent’s Hospital in Portland, Oregon, from the effects of a basilar stroke.

Poindexter, who also organized several nongovernmental organization forums at major United Nations conferences, was born in Hood River, Oregon, on Jan. 30, 1929, and graduated from Astoria High School in 1947.

After receiving a bachelor of arts degree at Willamette University in 1951, and both bachelor’s and master’s degrees in theology at Boston University (where he became friends with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.), David served as pastor of Parkrose Heights Methodist Church in Portland for eight years. He then moved to New York City to work with the National Council of Churches for five years as director of utilization of the NCC’s Broadcasting and Film Commission, and then as director of promotion services.

At the request of his bishop, David became director of the communication center of the Population Institute from 1970 to 1985. At the Population Institute, and later as founder and president of Population Communications International (1985-1998), David championed the use of entertainment as a powerful way to change social norms, particularly focusing on gender equality and family planning.

Poindexter worked to bring about and develop long-running, entertaining shows and educational television programs in numerous countries, including Brazil, China, Kenya, Madagascar, Mexico, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, St. Lucia and Tanzania.

In the early 1970s, he collaborated with John D. Rockefeller III to hold a meeting of the three network CEOs—a meeting also attended by then U.N. ambassador George H.W. Bush and U.S. Sen. Robert Packwood—to discuss treatment of gender, reproductive health and family planning issues in television.

He convinced the CEOs of the three major networks to host a large gathering in New York of key network entertainment producers and writers. Following that event, he organized annual awards ceremonies in collaboration with the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences to recognize the best entertainment shows addressing those issues.

One of the outgrowths of Poindexter’s outreach to Hollywood leaders was a long-standing relationship with Norman Lear and his head of drama, Virginia Carter. At Poindexter’s suggestion, the character Maude, in the series by the same name, had a mid-life abortion—six months before the Roe vs. Wade decision by the U.S. Supreme Court. As Norman Lear later put it, “David got Maude pregnant.” Similarly, he suggested the vasectomy of Rob Reiner’s character, Michael, on “All in the Family.”

During his work in Hollywood, Poindexter worked closely with Mary Tyler Moore, who was a great supporter of his work, which helped to bring about the discussion of sexism in the workplace on “The Mary Tyler Moore Show.”

In the mid-1970s, Poindexter began working in Mexico, where he discovered and promoted the work of Miguel Sabido, a well-known Mexican playwright and television producer who became a pioneer in entertainment-education. As vice president of Televisa, Sabido produced six telenovelas in the late 1970s and early 1980s, modeling family planning use for Mexican audiences.

During that time, Mexico experienced the most rapid decline in fertility rate of any developing country in the 20th century up until that time. These programs had similar effects when they were broadcast in several Spanish-speaking countries

in Latin America. Thomas Donnelly, then with the U.S. Agency for International Development in Mexico, wrote, “The Televisa family planning soap operas have made the single most powerful contribution to the Mexican population success story.”

Poindexter chaired several U.S. NGO planning committees for the U.N. population conferences around the world, starting one which became the largest NGO forum in U.N. history.

For over a decade, he was an officer of the Committee on Sustainable Development of the conference of NGOs in consultative status with the U.N.’s Economic and Social Division. He also served on the executive committee of the Conference of U.N. Representatives of the Council of Organizations of the U.N. Association-USA (UNA-USA).

He was an honorary fellow of the Population Reference Bureau, and received the Ninoy Aquino Human Rights Award, a distinguished alumni citation from Willamette University in 1982, the Eleanor Schnurr Award of the UNA-USA, and received a distinguished service award of the Population Institute.

He was an honorary life board member of the Council on International Non-Theatrical Events. In 2008, he won the Everett M. Rogers Award as founder and former president of Population Communications International.

Following retirement from Population Communications International in 1998, Poindexter served as honorary chairman of the Population Media Center, where he was instrumental in establishing and implementing social change serial dramas in 54 countries.

David is survived by his wife of 65 years, Marian Sayer Poindexter; his son, Jim; his sister-in-law, Audrey Poindexter; his nieces, Kathleen Teeple and Jan Van Dusen; his grand-nieces and nephews, Nick Lanzadoro, Rachel Van Dusen, Adrianna Perrault, Kristin Zedwick and Jake Savage, along with their families; and his great-grand-nieces and nephews.

After his brother passed in 1989, Uncle David unofficially stepped up as surrogate patriarch, taking over the grandfather role as a pillar of the family. He made it to every family reunion and event, organized annual holiday family gatherings at his home, and started traditions, came for holidays, and always greeted family and friends with warmth, hugs and kisses, and with a true interest in each of our lives.

He was our unofficial professional, political, progressiveness and cultural mentor. He would visit family, organize dinners and get-togethers with family around the country when he was in town for business, and of course, he would take us to the coolest, hippest spots in each of these cities including Boston, Los Angeles, New York and Washington, D.C. And when not accompanied by him, would always give the best recommendations for cultural activities wherever we traveled.

David said many times that family was the most important thing in his life, and regularly reminded all of us how dearly he loved and cherished us. He took care of his wife, Marian, faithfully for over 30 years as her primary caretaker after her own stroke. He forever will be remembered for how gentle and wise he was, and for being a selfless being of light and action.

Poindexter’s life and work are captured in his autobiographical book, “Out of the Darkness of Centuries,” published in 2009.

A memorial service was held on Tuesday, Feb. 13, at the First United Methodist Church in Portland, Oregon.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested memorial contributions may be made to Population Media Center, Suite 302, 30 Kimball Ave., South Burlington, VT 05403.



David Poindexter

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Q: How often should I get x-rays?

A: For most people, a complete radiographic survey should be done every 3 years, and a “check up” or “recall” set every 6 to 12 months. A complete set of x-rays is estimated to expose you to the same amount of radiation you get on a flight from San Francisco to Seattle. Doctors use x-rays as an aid in diagnosing problems. Without x-rays, “seeing” the problem will be difficult if not impossible.



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Q: When I click on a link, my original web page vanishes.

A: To keep your original page in place when clicking on a link to view additional information, use the right-hand button of your mouse. “Right clicking” on a web page brings up lots of useful options (Open in new tab, new window, copy picture.) If you have ever wanted to reopen a page you just closed, right click one of the still open tabs at the top of your page, and you will be able to “reopen” a closed tab.



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Q: Do I need to feed my chickens oyster shell?

A: Oyster shell is sometimes fed to chickens because it is an excellent source of calcium. Purina complete feeds such as Start N Grow, Layena or Meat Builder are formulated to meet calcium requirements so supplementing with oyster shell is not necessary. However, for older hens in hot weather, calcium may be beneficial. A rate of one pound per 100 hens daily is recommended for large growers; reduce proportionally for your flock. Over-feeding calcium can lead to the same symptoms that you are trying to reduce which is weak egg shells and reduced egg production.



John R. Alcantara - Funeral Director



Hughes-Ransom Mortuary

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Q: A friend told me she paid considerably less for her mom’s cremation and memorial service at your place than I paid for at the storefront funeral-service provider the hospital recommended we take to have my husband cremated?

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