



Names written in chalk are still on a chalkboard in a meeting room last used by the Jaycees in the Woodmen of the World building on Southeast Court Avenue.

PENDLETON: Would cost an estimated \$2M to renovate the Woodmen building

Continued from 1A

of the defunct local chapters of the fraternal organizations that used to occupy the building — Woodmen of the World and the Junior Chamber of Commerce.

One piece of left-behind memorabilia is a wood-carved Woodmen “honor roll” which appears to include the names of longtime Round-Up rodeo clown Allen “Monk” Carden and former Pendleton Mayor Norm Gorfkle.

Gail Sargent of LRS presented two options: turn the second and third floor into a seven-unit apartment complex that would include a couple of two-floor lofts or use it for a fitness center complete with a restored gymnasium.

Parker liked the idea of a mixed-use development, but Sargent said any option would probably require a second staircase to accommodate emergency evacuation.

Parker estimated it would take \$2 million to renovate the second and third floor of the Woodmen building.

Masonic Temple (Great Pacific Wine & Coffee Co.)

Another former fraternal organization meeting place, Great Pacific hosted the development commission on its second story for a previous meeting.

One half of the second floor is dressing rooms, closets and other small spaces while the other half revolves around a large meeting space.

Unlike the other buildings, LRS didn’t include an apartment option.

While Great Pacific co-owner Ken Schulberg considered turning the space into apartments in the past, he now envisions it as an event venue with a main event hall, dining room and green room.

Sargent said turning the GP’s second story into apartments would also sap the space of all its character.

Boarding houses

Although their façades are dramatically different, the old boarding houses on the second floor of the LaFontaine Building (Pendleton Music Co.), the Columbia Hotel (Joe’s Fiesta Mexican Restaurant) and the Martin Building (Zimmerman & Co. True Value Hardware)

The reason for the disparate façades varied. While the owners of the LaFontaine building kept its original character, the hardware store



Old wallpaper still lines the walls of a washroom in the Woodmen of the World building on Southeast Court Avenue in Pendleton.

was given a “modernized” stucco façade long before Zimmerman owner Jim Naughton bought the building in 1982.

On the other hand, Joe’s Fiesta owner Joe Meda decided to paint over the Columbia Hotel’s original whitewash with his own vibrant hues, much to the dismay of state historic preservation officials.

“Good or bad, people talk about it,” Meda said. “There’s no such thing as bad publicity.”

The outward differences belied the fact that all buildings had old boarding houses on their second floors, meaning LRS had similar prescriptions for each space.

For all three, Sargent recommended turning them into four, 1,000 square foot apartments or five offices.

The people in the room debated whether office space or apartments were the better investment for second floors.

While Meda thought his second floor might be a good spot for a dental office or credit union, Alan Feves, representing the LaFontaine building, wasn’t sold on the idea.

“I don’t see a big market for office space, but I’m not sure if that’s accurate or not,” Feves said.

Jordan McDonald, the co-owner of Wtechlink and a member of the development commission’s advisory committee, estimated there was 20,000 to 40,000 square feet of available office space in Pendleton, half of which was in the downtown area.

Robinson Building (Sister’s Cafe)

The Robinson Building was its own unique case — with its second floor completely gutted, renova-

tors wouldn’t be forced to reconfigure the historical layout.

“(It’s a) clean slate,” Sargent said. “No historical fabric to deal with.”

That doesn’t mean the second floor doesn’t have its problems. LRS noticed that the ceiling was sagging and the building would probably need a completely new roof in the longterm.

In addition LRS provided two different six-unit configurations for apartments, engineer Dave Krumbein said he’s also made his own plans for the space.

Representing Sister’s Cafe owner Rosemary Ramirez, Dawn Alderson said Ramirez’s family is also working on turning old city hall into a boutique hotel.

Old city hall burned in a 2015 explosion and remains fire damaged.

Alderson said the family is also considering installing an elevator between Sister’s and old city hall that would connect the two buildings.

For the city’s park, building official Ty Woolsey said he would balance safety and business concerns when evaluating renovation plans.

“It’s going to be a challenge but it’s something we’re going to figure out through conversation,” he said.

While not every building is eligible, officials from LRS and the city encouraged the owners to look into the government incentive programs from the city, state and federal government.

Sargent promised that LRS would continue to work with the building owners to create more detailed designs and a more accurate quote of the total cost it would take to restore their second stories.

WOLVES: Number of known wolves in Oregon was 112 at the end of 2016

Continued from 1A

away wolves near their livestock on seven different occasions in June and July. Cattle will continue to graze in the area on public land until October, and on private lands into November, according to ODFW.

“Based on the level of non-lethal measures already being used and the fact that wolves are likely to be in the presence of cattle in this area for several more months, there is a substantial risk that depredation will continue or escalate,” Brown said.

Wolves were removed from the state endangered species list at the end of 2015, but remain federally protected west of highways 395, 78 and 95. There are four criteria before ODFW will consider killing wolves in Eastern Oregon: if the agency confirms at least two attacks on livestock; if producers can show non-lethal deterrents have not been successful; if there is nothing else to attract wolves into the area; and if the requester has complied with laws under the wolf plan.

In the kill order signed Thursday by ODFW Director Curt Melcher, the

agency was authorized to remove a portion of wolves in the Harl Butte pack because the situation satisfies those requirements and “is the only option expected to reduce or eliminate current chronic depredation.”

The decision was criticized by not only environmental groups, but cattlemen as well.

“As an organization, we are extremely disappointed that they are not taking out the entire pack with all the depredations that have occurred and all the work that has been done under the Oregon wolf plan,” said Jerome Rosa, executive director of the Oregon Cattlemen’s Association. “To not take the entire pack? This is code for our ranchers that cattle will continue to be killed.”

Todd Nash, a Wallowa County rancher, commissioner and chairman of the OCA wolf committee, echoed that disappointment.

“We have seen this happen before and we fully expect more cattle to be killed,” Nash said. “It’s a very unfortunate way to do business.”

Nick Cady, legal director for Cascadia Wildlands, chastised ODFW for its

willingness to kill any wolves while the species is still recovering statewide.

“This kill order is wrong and simply another aimless gift to the commercial livestock industry already bloated on public subsidies,” Cady said. “The mission of the Department of Fish and Wildlife is to protect recovering native species, not to meaninglessly pander to large commercial industries pushing for wolf eradication.”

The number of known wolves in Oregon was 112 animals at the end of 2016, which was just two more than estimated in 2015. Cady also pointed out that the Oregon wolf plan has not been updated since 2010, and a planned update is now three years overdue.

“The department has released a draft of this plan with a science update that calls into serious question the efficacy of killing wolves to prevent conflicts with livestock,” Cady said. “It is ridiculous that the department is prioritizing killing wolves prior to finalizing a sound management policy.”

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FAIR: There are daily inspections for the rides

Continued from 1A

tion laws, from electrical to mechanical,” he said. “They get inspected by the state.”

The Umatilla County Fair will be getting its carnival rides from Davis Amusement Cascadia, a company based in Clackamas. Dorran said the fair has used Davis rides for more than 20 years.

“We’ve never had a ride accident,” he said.

Cathy Davis, who co-owns the business with her husband, said they are hyper-aware of safety issues, but not just since the Ohio State Fair incident.

“That’s all we think about,” she said. “When something like in Ohio happens, it brings everything right to the front of your mind. We’re making sure we’ve done, and are continuing to do all the right things.”

Davis said they have a ride similar to the one that malfunctioned in Ohio, supplied by the company Amusements of America. Although it’s not manufactured by the same company, they’ve temporarily pulled their ride for further safety inspections.

Even for their other rides,

Davis said, there are daily inspections.

“We go off the sheets from our manufacturer and we add a few extra points,” she said. “Every morning, prior to opening, we start up the generators for an hour, doing safety checks with seat belts, latch bars, whatever’s mandated by the ride manufacturer.”

Davis said her company does about 75 events per year, and owns about 42 rides.

“We’re very careful about safety, and have a very good record,” she said. “We don’t take chances.”

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