

PEACE HARBOR FOUNDATION BENEFITS FROM UNIQUE GIFT

David and Linda Lauck fell in love with the Oregon Coast during a vacation more than three decades ago and decided that Florence would be the perfect place to call home during their golden years. Their new property's gorgeous lakefront view wasn't the only reason they settled on retiring in rural Lane County.

"We knew that, as we got older, having quality healthcare close by would be extremely important to us," Linda said. "PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Medical Center is large enough to serve our community's healthcare needs, but small enough to care. We never felt like strangers; we felt like we were part of a large extended family."

Ensuring continued access to quality, compassionate care for the community they'd grown to love was important to the Laucks. After meeting with the Peace Harbor Medical Center Foundation's leadership, they knew

that they had found the perfect way to give back to their community while still enjoying the benefits of living in their own home.

"We partnered together to create a charitable giving arrangement called a retained life estate. The Foundation's knowledge and caring attitude made a big impression—we will always think of gifting our home as a good decision," Linda said.

Sadly, David passed away in 2016; last year, Linda decided it was time to move into a smaller home, which allowed the foundation to sell her gift of real estate during her lifetime.

"It just made sense. This gift will create the Lauck Family Endowment," Linda said. "I love knowing that the gift of our property will help Peace Harbor continue to provide amazing care to our community for years to come."

A PHILANTHROPIC OPPORTUNITY

Your property opens the

door to a unique philanthropic opportunity to support quality healthcare in your community. Donate your property to the Peace Harbor Medical Center Foundation, either now or when you no longer need it, and get some or all of these charitable and financial benefits, including:

- Reliable annual payments for life
- Bypass of long-term capital gains tax
- The ability to continue living in your home
- An immediate charitable income tax deduction
- The ability to help ensure Peace Harbor will be able to serve you and those you love.

HERE'S HOW GIFTING REAL ESTATE WORKS

- Outright gift: Make an impact and maximize tax savings. You transfer the property by deed to the PHMC Foundation and the property will be sold. This will help free you from costly or unprofitable properties

(like inherited property, a real estate investment that has failed to deliver, or a vacation home you no longer use). You save taxes on the sale and receive an immediate charitable deduction.

• Life Income gift: Make a gift and receive income for life. You may transfer real property to a charitable remainder trust. Upon sale, the net proceeds are invested, and income is paid to you and/or loved ones for the rest of your lives.

This is a great option to turn property with significant appreciation into a dependable and generous income stream. You save capital gains taxes and receive a partial charitable deduction for the value of your home.

• Estate gift. By making an estate gift, or bequest, you continue to live in your home and gift the property to Peace Harbor Foundation through your will.

• Retained life estate. Live in your home and receive fi-

nancial benefits now. For the Laucks, it was very important for them to give in the most generous way that they could, but it had to make financial sense for their family as well. "Giving our home through this option was the perfect way to achieve both our philanthropic and financial goals," Linda says. When you make this gift, like the Laucks did, you can continue to live in your home and receive a charitable deduction when you make the gift. Peace Harbor Foundation receives the property at the end of your life (or when you move out of the home, as in Linda's case).

• Commercial Property. You can also donate commercial property to receive the benefits above.

Donating a house is a bit more complex than other types of donations, but it doesn't have to be daunting.

Linda worked with the realtors at TR Hunter Real Estate, including Crystell Wise (buyers broker), Amy

Johnson (sellers broker) and Tim Sapp (principal broker and owner) who made the process of listing and selling her beloved home quick and simple.

Knowledgeable realtors can help you obtain a property valuation to give credence to the value of the home you are considering donating; contact the brokers at TR Hunter Real Estate today by visiting their website at www.trhunter.com or by calling the office at 541-997-1200 for more information.

Peace Harbor Medical Center is incredibly grateful for the generosity of the Laucks. They inspired us with this amazing gift and, now, Linda hopes you will be inspired too.

To learn about ways you can use your resources to help others, please contact Heather Quaas-Annsa, the Foundation's Executive Director, at 541-902-6589 or hquaas-annsa@peacehealth.org.

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City Manager Erin Reynolds opened the meeting and recapped the purpose of the meeting, and the importance of the workplan to staff and council, as a way of guiding decision-making over the next two-year budget cycle.

"I am super excited about this workplan, as I am seeing it come to life. One thing we had an opportunity to talk about as staff while doing this shows we have made dreams come true," Reynolds said. "Our personal and professional dreams for the city, the dreams of city councils past and present and, by taking it one bite at a time, we have been able to proceed and make a lot of dreams come true."

Reynolds and City Recorder Kelli Weese have worked closely to identify the areas that are in need of adjustment by specific committees, which then have to be incorporated into the formation of the new workplan.

They have also worked to shape the plan during personnel transitions in order to continue towards achieving long-term goals of the plan, regardless of membership or political affiliation of council members.

The five main components of the workplan include the professional delivery of city services, sustaining the city's quality of life, developing the economy, building communication and trust within the community, and sustaining the city's financial position.

Mayor Joe Henry, who has contributed to the development of workplans for several years, spoke briefly on the plan before more specific discussions began.

"We established five overarching goals almost seven years ago and, as Erin mentioned, we have accomplished many of the things we set out to do," he said. "But in general, I think we need to remember that No. 1 — by our charter, 90 percent of our resources, efforts, time, talent and treasures — are devoted to providing essential services to the city."

The mayor also addressed the animosity that colored many council deliberations during the past few years. This part of the discussion took place under the heading of "communication and trust."

"There has been — to be honest — some pretty ugly things that have gone on in the last couple of years and we hope that we can put those behind us and

move forward together as a team," Henry said. "For the first number of those years, even though we had differing backgrounds, differing political views and differing goals, we worked together as a team."

He went on to say he would do what he could to make this version of the council more respectful and productive.

The current City Work Plan covers most aspects of city operations and includes many facets of physical and infrastructure needs, financial accountability and human resource concerns.

Most of the meeting progressed with all councilors agreeing on the proposed versions of committee goals, and the small selection of topics discussed in detail.

There will be the opportunity to fine tune elements of the plan as the year progresses.

There were few changes suggested until the discussion reached the responsibilities of the Public Art Committee (PAC) and Environmental Management Advisory Committee (EMAC).

EMAC and PAC have at times proven to be committees where conflicts between members of the committee, the public, ex-officio repre-

sentatives and the council have occurred in the recent past.

These conflicts have often resulted in public displays of animosity, which City of Florence staff is working towards eliminating by including more specific training to address conflict and tension.

In addition, a small, dedicated group of people demanding a more proactive approach, led by local environmentalist Michael Allen, for more than a year and a half has weekly been protesting Florence's lack of recognition of climate change.

Allen has also taken advantage of the public speaker opportunity offered all residents at city council meetings to voice his concerns to the broader community, often citing Henry by name as an obstacle to his goal.

The group's efforts have been successful in garnering public support, but not in convincing a majority of the Florence City Council to implement an official climate change policy.

The recent election of two new councilors, and the appointment of a third, has realigned the council, as reflected in comments made by councilors Bill Meyer and Margaret Wisniewski during recent work sessions regarding environmental and social issues.

The first to speak on this topic was the mayor, who reiterated his previously stated objection to the issuance of any type of proclamation or official position which acknowledges a "climate emergency."

Henry has consistent-

ly shared his opposition to such a policy based on concerns over potential political connotations should the city advocate or engage in such a policy. He has also stated he does not believe that science has proven there is permanent global climate change due to human activity.

"I am very concerned with our environment. I just personally don't agree that we should engage in the climate change movement because I believe it is political to some extent and we should keep this nonpartisan," Henry continued. "That is not to say we shouldn't do each and everything we can do to protect our environment, if it makes sense for the environment and the city, and we can afford it. They want us to declare a climate change emergency and they want me as mayor to sign a climate change proclamation and I refuse to do that. It is as simple as that — I am never going to do it."

His comments regarding the nature of the recognition of climate change was then immediately seconded by Wisniewski.

"I think we definitely need to address pollution. I would have to whole heartedly agree with you on climate change; I think that is politically driven and I don't think we need to address it here," she said.

Newly elected councilor Meyer echoed those concerns and voiced his objection to any type of climate change position for reasons similar to those shared by Henry and Wisniewski.

"I am not in favor of sign-

ing onto a slogan or a declaration because what part of that spectrum does that declaration apply to?" Meyer asked. "If you look at the climate change movement, there is a broad spectrum of applications and attitudes and procedures and just adopting a climate change emergency declaration — what part of that spectrum are you signing on too?"

"We need to be responsible for our environment and we need to concentrate at the city level, on specific actions that are measurable, effective and realistic."

Henry also presented what could be an exciting and economically significant topic for the EMAC and the council to consider: methane power.

Henry suggested Florence could look into a program that would be modeled after one operating in Portland that captures and reuses off-gases, primarily methane, and redirects them to other uses. The city also sells the power generated by the burning of methane while reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Additionally, at the urging of newly elected Councilor Sally Wantz, Henry supported the idea of EMAC establishing a subcommittee to explore ways EMAC might impact city policy in a more substantive way than a proclamation.

Next, the ongoing plight of the PAC was once again a topic of discussion, in particular its funding mechanism for the purchase of public art. Funding through the Florence Urban Renewal Agency (FURA) has been discontinued and Henry, with the support of the council, asked Wantz, as the ex-officio representative to the committee, to deliver a clear message that funding of public art through the city is unlikely in the foreseeable future.

Wantz proposed PAC set up a sub-committee to explore funding options, and the proposal received support from the council.

Another important change in the development of the current work plan to recent updating attempts is the sense that the council has a responsibility, particularly in light of the unprecedented challenges facing the city, to strive to work together with respect and a shared sense of purpose.

The final version of the City Work Plan will soon be completed, incorporating the suggestions made Thursday, and the finished plan will be circulated to council members for their final approval before it is presented during the March 15 Florence City Council meeting.

For more information, visit ci.florence.or.us.

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Helping Hands Coalition

We are in need of volunteers on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays. We need volunteers to serve food, set up for meals and also prepare meals beginning at 11:00 am and finishing at 2:00pm.
New Location: Community Baptist Church, 4590 Hwy. 101, Florence (Across from Fred Meyer)

Oregon Coast Humane Society

relies heavily on volunteers. There are many opportunities to volunteer and a variety of skills and talents are always in need. Volunteer interest forms may be found online, at the shelter and at our Thrift Shop on Bay Street.
www.oregoncoasthumane.org/volunteer/

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