



COURTESY LORRAINE ORTIZ

Manzanita sculptor Mike Cook with state Rep. Deborah Boone and his piece "Earth Rescue"

Manzanita artist's work lands in governor's office

Cannon Beach Gazette

Many artists dream of having their work in a position of prominence where it can be seen by decision makers. And that is exactly what happened with Manzanita resident Mike Cook's piece "Earth Rescue," which now resides in the Oregon governor's office.

Since becoming a sculptor post-retirement, Cook combined his creative passion, concern with climate change and his drive to advocate for Oregon's Clean Energy Jobs Bill and the state's participation in meeting the Paris Agreement. He wanted to see where creating for a cause might lead and if it could help in some way.

Cook's artist statement for "Earth Rescue" states

that the work is a gesture of caring for the wound, softening the impacts and what can occur with an agreed, political, environmental, economic and scientific framework.

At first, state Rep. Deborah Boone welcomed the possibility of having the piece in her office, but as the 2018 session approached, along with a solid chance for the passage of the Clean Energy bill, Boone suggested perhaps the piece could be placed in the governor's office. And that is exactly what happened.

As Cook continues to write notes to legislators, he can leverage the placement of his sculpture, referring to the piece and what it represents. "I can refer to the piece by name, where it is and suggest they go take a look at it," he smiled.

Sea Lark apartments to be rebuilt

A year after burning down, construction is set to begin this summer

By Brenna Visser
Cannon Beach Gazette

Plans to rebuild the Sea Lark apartments in downtown Cannon Beach are in the works a little over a year after the buildings were destroyed in a fire.

Planning commission and design review board approved designs and plans. Construction is expected to start this summer, David Vonada of Tolovana Architects said Thursday, Feb. 15. He spoke on behalf of Mike Clark, the property owner of Coaster Properties LLC.

"We feel it's a huge upgrade and plus for the community," Vonada said.

The new building will resemble the former as it will many of the same exterior materials and remain the same size. This time, however, the complex will feature eight one-bedroom units instead of the original four-plex of two-to-three bedroom units. This time around there will also be an Americans with Disabilities Act accessible room.

There is also a deed restriction that prohibits these apartments to ever be converted into condominiums or short term rentals in an effort to keep them affordable, long-term housing.

"We were able to have eight units in the same amount of space. That means more affordable housing, which we're pretty excited about," Vonada said.

The process to rebuild the Sea Lark was stalled partially due to waiting on a parking variance from the planning commission. With the increased number of units, Clark argued he could create



CANNON BEACH FIRE AND RESCUE/FOR EO MEDIA GROUP

Fire consumed 124 N. Larch St., leaving three residents displaced.

'WE FEEL IT'S A HUGE UPGRADE AND PLUS FOR THE COMMUNITY!'

David Vonada,
on behalf of Mike Clark,
property owner

more parking to the current parking requirements, which would be about one space per unit.

But some commissioners were concerned the lack of parking could negatively impact the tenants.

"Without a lot of public transportation, you really need a car to get around here," commissioner Robin Risley said in December.

At the same December meeting, Clark and former planning director Rainmar Bartl argued the amount of parking required by the city is excessive, and that many of the tenants whom this would serve don't have vehicles or walk to work.



SAM STEIDEL/FOR CANNON BEACH GAZETTE

Flames at the Sea Lark apartments in downtown Cannon Beach threatened to spread to nearby buildings.

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