

Town hall meeting brings fresh ideas for Boardman's future

The Boardman City Council hosted a packed house Thursday night for their Town Hall meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to get input from the public regarding the city's Draft Strategic Plan. Mayor Phillips wanted to hear from the citizens of Boardman before the council finalizes the plan. "It's an important part of the city's planning process, which will take Boardman into the future," he said.

In September, the city council held a day-long workshop to update the city's Strategic Plan. The last time the city reviewed its Strategic Plan was in 2005. The Boardman City Council and staff were able to agree that the completion of South Main Street was their number one goal. In all, 15 goals were identified including economic development, new housing, a community recreation center, additional restaurants, and the expansion of Oregon Trail Boulevard to the west. Many of the ideas shared at the town hall focused on attracting new residents.

Boardman resident, Ed Glenn suggested the city appeal to the 700 people he sees everyday, leaving their Port jobs headed east on the freeway to go home,

to live in Boardman. He recommended the city offer a homebuyer cash incentive along with suspending the city's system development charges. Glenn also suggested reduced commercial water rates and developing an upscale housing overlay zone for more expensive homes.

Past president of the Chamber of Commerce, Dean Kegler, encouraged the city to make Boardman the "most attractive city along I-84" with artwork, sculptures, bridge art and planting a "green belt" on both sides of the freeway for miles in each direction. He would like to see plenty of soccer, baseball, softball, and play fields in the community in order to attract new residents.

Carol Michael, an 18-year resident of the community, said Boardman could attract residents with a sense of heritage. She suggested naming new streets after Boardman pioneers, educate the community about the ice-age flooding that created Boardman's landscape, and to have a place to hold cultural events.

In attracting new residents, commercial development is also important. Dean Kegler felt the city needed to be ready to

accommodate retail/commercial development in the "core" community by having appropriate sized water and sewer in and available to existing lands. He would like to see a road project extending from south Main Street to Laurel Lane. Mr. Kegler also suggested a moratorium on system development charges and reducing permit fees. Port of Morrow Manager Gary Neal said "it cost a lot of money to do the things people want you to do." He suggested the city work hard at obtaining grants to implement their Strategic Plan.

While most of the ideas shared at the meeting cost a lot of money, some, however, are not as expensive. Diane Wolfe, Boardman Chamber CEO/Executive Director suggested the city have better signage for the City Park. She said it's a beautiful park that people often overlook because they don't realize it's there.

Mayor Phillips was pleased to see so many turn out for the Town Hall meeting and was excited to hear the community's ideas for Boardman's future. He plans to bring the Strategic Plan before the City Council by the end of the year for approval.

Books published to benefit Eastern Oregon libraries

Just in time for holiday sales, two books have been published by Libraries of Eastern Oregon (LEO) with proceeds to benefit area public libraries.

Celebrating eastern Oregon, LEO's 226-page "A Sense of Place" anthology is a collection of juried poems, essays and short stories by several dozen residents across the 15 counties served by LEO, as well as a few other previously-published poets who pay tribute to the region.

The "A Sense of Place" anthology portrays the many concepts of place - whether as a place of mental well-being or as an experience or memory of a special place in the region - and reflects how the theme resonates in one's experiences and thought. The collection includes works by persons of all ages, with 120 writings selected from nearly 500 entries.

"Writing Home" is a 67-page thought-provoking book on the art of creative writing, intended to inspire persons of all ages to write from the experience of place. It was developed by area creative writing instructor and published poet/essayist Rob Whitbeck,

who lives in Winlock.

Both books have a full color cover featuring original oil paintings by Fossil artist Daniel Robinson. A nationally recognized artist and author of In Oregon, Robinson has been featured on National Public Radio, Oregon Public Broadcasting's Art Beat and has won high acclaim at gallery shows in Portland and Boston. The anthology and writing book have been printed by Maverick Publications of Bend.

Proceeds from both books will be placed in a special fund by LEO to pay for community programs at libraries across the region. LEO serves public libraries in Baker, Crook, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Lake, Malheur, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Wasco and Wheeler. Nearly all of the public libraries in the region are without resources in their annual budgets for community programs and several still operate at less than \$17 per capita per year - or less than the cost of one hardcover book.

The anthology costs \$12.95 each for one to three copies, with an additional \$3.50 postage

and handling. Four or more copies cost \$9.95 each plus \$2.75 total for postage and handling.

Writing Home is available at \$9.95 each for 1-3 copies plus \$2.75 postage and handling; four or more copies are \$8.50 each plus \$2.50 postage and handling.

The books are available now for on-line purchases via PayPal at the LEO website www.librariesofeasternoregon.org, or by sending a check to Libraries of Eastern Oregon, P.O. Box 11, Moro, Oregon 97037. Books will also be available for purchase at several area libraries later this month.

Each book has been made possible as part of the "A Sense of Place" theme for community programs in the arts, sciences and humanities that are brought to area libraries by the non-profit LEO. The themed programs are supported in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, our nation's agency that works to support these cultural institutions.

For further information, please contact leolibraries@gmail.com.

Sheriff's Report

The Morrow County Sheriff's Office reports handling the following business:

September 3: Morrow County Sheriff's Office received report of erratic driving in Lexington with an outgoing problem of a car peeling out and throwing gravel.

-MCSO received report of kids climbing on the roof and painting graffiti on the window at Heppner High School.

-MCSO received report of people receiving fraudulent calls from people trying to get money in Heppner.

-MCSO received report from a Heppner man that a pistol he gave his son was stolen in Eugene and he needed information from the last theft.

-MCSO received a report from an Irrigon subject that his dad had a verbal altercation with another male subject. A deputy responded, but was unable to locate anything.

-MCSO received a report of an intoxicated female sitting on the air pumps behind the Heppner gas station with a five-year-old boy with her. The female got a ride to the apartments behind the hospital and her family will take care of her.

-MCSO received report from a Boardman subject that a bull went through the fence and is on their property.

-MCSO received report of a lounge chair that had been put on top of the tunnel at the Irrigon Skate Park. A deputy and a city worker got the chair down.

-MCSO, Boardman Police Department, Boardman Fire Department received report of a vehicle on fire at the north Shell station in Boardman. MCSO, BPD, BFD responded and the fire was put out and the vehicle towed.

-MCSO received report from a subject that her son's fiancé was threatening suicide and was trying to leave with her three-year-old child. MCSO

responded.

-Boardman Police Department received a report of a theft.

-BPD received a report from a grandmother that her granddaughter was supposed to return home, but she was at another residence. BPD responded and the problem resolved.

-BPD cited Alfredo Alcantar Mendez, Jr., 27, for No Operator's License.

-BPD received report from a caller that a male subject pointed a vehicle in his direction like he was going to fun him over.

-Irrigon Fire Department received a fire call.

-Boardman Fire Department, Boardman Ambulance received report of a hay barn on fire with explosions. It was unknown if they had any propane tanks.

-Boardman Ambulance received report of a subject who had trouble breathing. Boardman EMS and transported the subject to Good Shepherd Hospital in Heppner.

-Boardman Ambulance reported that a male walked into the ambulance hall with a cut finger. The patient refused transport.

September 4: Morrow County Sheriff's Office received report from an Irrigon woman that someone broke into her house.

-MCSO received report that Umatilla Police Department arrested Ricardo Mendoza Lepez, 29, on an Irrigon Justice Court warrant for Failure to Pay Fine/Menacing and another warrant for Failure to Pay Fine. He was lodged at Umatilla County Jail with a hold placed for Morrow County with a \$1,813 fine in full.

-MCSO received report of an audible alarm at A.C. Houghton. A deputy responded and it was determined to be a false alarm due to a power outage.

-MCSO received report that Washington County Sheriff's Office arrested Pablo Orgomiz Mendoza, 47, for Failure to Pay Fine/Failure to Appear. He was lodged at Washington County Jail with a \$470 fine.

-MCSO received report that a dog trap was

picked up in Irrigon.

-MCSO arrested Pablo Orgomiz Mendoza, 47, on an Irrigon Justice Court warrant for Failure to Pay Fine/Failure to Appear. He was lodged at Washington County Jail with \$470 fine in full.

-MCSO received report of an army green purse/book bag with ID and a bank card lost in Heppner.

-MCSO received report of possible marijuana plants at an Irrigon residence. The caller said the subject had a boarded off area in his yard.

-MCSO received report of a missing juvenile in Heppner.

-MCSO received report that Salem Police Department arrested Lisa Marie Hess, 35, on an Irrigon Justice Court warrant for Failure to Pay Fine/Driving While Suspended. Bail was \$1432 in full. Due to medical problems, the subject was cited and released to appear in court.

-MCSO received report of a possible drug deal at the Paterson Ferry exit on I-84 in Boardman with the driver of one white car exchanging a small item with the driver of another car. A deputy located one vehicle on Main Street in Boardman, but had no probable cause to stop the vehicle.

-MCSO received report of an assault to a Boardman Police Department officer. A MCSO deputy investigated and determined it was not an assault, but a verbal confrontation between the two reporters and another subject.

-MCSO received report of a dog barking in an Irrigon trailer park for three days straight.

-MCSO received report of a large bird out back that appeared to have hit the window and broke its neck.

-MCSO received report of loud music from an Irrigon residence. MCSO cited Eudoro Gardenas Herrera, 35, for Prohibited Noise.

-MCSO received report from a Boardman subject that his neighbor was burning something. The caller was advised that the Boardman burning ban

had been lifted.

-MCSO received report of a vehicle all over the road on Columbia Lane/Industrial Way in Boardman.

-MCSO received a report of kids having a fire outside a residence in Heppner. The fire was in a fire pit and a hose was nearby.

-MCSO, Boardman Ambulance received report from a Boardman subject who said that while he was stopped at a stop sign on the east-bound off ramp a vehicle hit him from behind.

-MCSO received an alarm from the Heppner pharmacy.

-Boardman Police Department arrested Enrique Pacheco, 38, for Harassment/Domestic Violence and Interfering with a 911 call. The subject was transported to Umatilla County Jail with \$9,000 bail.

-BPD officer was flagged down regarding an assault. The assault was determined to have occurred

out of the city limits.

-BPD received report of a 16-year-old female runaway who had been last seen at home the previous day. She was believed to be in the Stanfield area with two subjects.

-BPD received report from a Boardman subject that members of a family attacked his vehicle and threw stuff at it. The victims could not identify their attackers.

-Irrigon Fire Department received report of a controlled burn at an Irrigon location. Burning in that area was banned until October 1, as per the fire chief. No fire could be located.

-Boardman Ambulance notified MCSO that they were out at the football game.

-Boardman Ambulance received report from a subject that her neighbor had a seizure and was non-responsive. The ambulance responded.

September 5: Morrow County Sheriff's

Office received report of a social security card found in Milton Freewater, reporting person wanted to turn it into the Sheriff's Office.

-MCSO deputy found a boat near the high banks that was pretty beat up, boat was capsized while it was tied up at one time. Contacted some fishermen in the areas and they advised that he believes that this was a hate crime against him because he is Nez-Perce. He stated that he has been dealing with this for the past 21 years and he knows how to take care of this. He is going to report it as a federal hate crime.

-MCSO moved the school zone radar trailer from Ione to Heppner

-MCSO received a report of dog barking all day long. MCSO contacted the owner and informed that if they were called back again the owner would receive a citation for the dogs.

NOTICE OF SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET HEARING

* Use for supplemental budget proposing a change in a fund's expenditures of 10 percent or more.

A public hearing on a proposed supplemental budget for City of Heppner MORROW (District name) (County)

State of Oregon, for the fiscal year July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010, will be held at City Hall, 111 N. Main St. (Location)

The hearing will take place on the December 14, 2009 at 7:00 (Date) (Time) A.M. P.M.

The purpose of the hearing is to discuss the supplemental budget with interested persons.

A copy of the supplemental budget document may be inspected or obtained on or after November 30, 2009 at 111 N. Main St., Heppner, OR (Date) (Location) A.M. P.M. and A.M. P.M. between the hours of 9:00 and 5:00

SUMMARY OF SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

PUBLISH ONLY THOSE FUNDS BEING MODIFIED

Supplemental Budget			
General Fund:	Existing	Change	Adjusted
Tsfr. to Debt Svc. 01-01-8265	14,815	+28,186	43,001
Contingency 01-07-9900	Existing 76,390	Change -28,186	Adjusted 48,204
Debt Service Fund			
Tsfr. From GF (WIP) 19-00-8020	Existing 14,815	Change +28,186	Adjusted 43,001
Bond Pr. 2007 Loan 19-01-6030	Existing 185,450	Change +28,186	Adjusted 213,636

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