

Broadway Field needs funds

Facility more costly than anticipated

By Katherine Lacaze
Seaside Signal

The three entities responsible for Broadway Field are in the process of amending their original agreement to more equally share costs. The recreation district maintains Broadway Field as part of a 2012 agreement — which involves the city of Seaside and Seaside School District 10 — and incurs the cost of routine maintenance and repair of the fields, facilities and equipment. So far, this cost has not been covered by revenue made by the field.

Each of the recreation district’s past three budgets — for fiscal years 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 — contained a transfer from the city’s general fund to the Broadway Field Fund to offset projected operational deficits from lack of rentals and underperforming concessions.

“If you were just to look at the field by itself, it’s not a profitable service or facility for us,” Executive Director Skyler Archibald said.

Since last summer, recreation district staff worked with the city and school district to review the agreement and propose updates, as the recreation district does not have the resources to continue providing artificial turf maintenance and facility improvements without financial assistance from the school district.

Under an intergovernmental agreement amendment, approved by the school district’s



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Broadway Field is proving costly as government agencies seek to share expenses.

board of directors at a meeting Feb. 16, the school district will annually pay the park district a contribution toward the field’s maintenance costs. The payment, beginning with the 2015-16 fiscal year, will be \$10,900, with the contribution to be adjusted annually, on agreement of the parties, based on maintenance costs.

The parties will annually determine what equipment and facilities need replacement or improvement. If funds are available in the field replacement fund, the recreation district will apply the fund to cover the costs, according to the amendment. If there aren’t enough funds, the parties will mutually agree on cost allocation.

Since Broadway Field was completed about four years ago, it has not been rented as much as anticipated. The school district remains the pri-

mary user of the field for its middle school and high school athletic programs. The local schools have first dibs on using the facility’s football, softball and baseball fields, as long as they schedule their events by a certain deadline. Other than that, the recreation district uses the facility for some of its programs, and Seaside Kids Inc. and other local groups use it, as well.

Archibald said making the field a more attractive and rentable space is a significant challenge, because it is no longer one of the few turf fields in the region, as it was when first installed.

“It’s a different dynamic at play right now,” he said.

Maintenance of the field and the artificial turf is more expensive and time-consuming than originally anticipate, he added.

Archibald said the recreation district is committed to

keeping Broadway Field as an asset to the community and he appreciates the other two partners engaging in dialogue about the issue and being willing to adjust the cost distribution.

“Our district wants to be a partner in the community,” he said. “We also really want to promote the opportunity to play in outdoor spaces for youth and adults alike. And the field is one of the best venues in Seaside to promote year-round play.”

Even though the investment has not panned out as expected, and there “have been some hurdles and speed bumps along the way,” Archibald said the district is “really happy to have the field to offer as a venue.”

The recreation district’s board of directors plans to approve the amendment. The recreation district then will present the amendment before Seaside City Council, likely at a meeting in March, for approval.

Food pantry relies on community support

Pantry from Page 1A

is greater than what the organization previously functioned on, but necessary to take it to the next level.

“We need to move to a professional operation of the food pantry,” said Mary Blake, a board member for the organization. “We see that as an absolute goal. ... We’re stepping up to be a real, legitimate operation.”

Fundraising options

The pantry does not have a constant funding stream and has relied on community support through a soft solicitation via letters to the editor that generate about \$40,000

per year. The food pantry, established 30 years ago, needs to determine its future path by revisiting and understanding its vision and mission, operation budget and fundraising plan, according to Blake.

The campaign will take place throughout the year, and the board is sifting through a few different potential ideas for funding sources. The fundraising committee includes Blake, Michelle Johnson, Nicolle Landwehr and Neal Wallace.

One idea is to pursue grants from past donors, such as local municipalities, banks, civic and service organizations, businesses, foundations and other sources. Possible large grantors include the Oregon

Community Foundation, the Meyer Memorial Trust and the Ford Family Foundation. Providence Seaside Hospital donated \$10,000 in January.

While the pantry is run using volunteers, the organization wants to create a management staff with one paid member. Additionally, the pantry hopes to purchase a new truck for doing pickups and deliveries, and that is included in the budget.

A health-centered culture

People are becoming more aware about food and nutrition, not just locally but across the country. Pantries seek to provide not only short-term food supplies but

also long-term solutions to food insecurity. That means not only changing emergency food systems but encouraging communities to embrace an integrated food system, Blake said.

“The need is there, it will always be there,” she said.

A major part of the integrated food system Blake envisions includes collaboration. For instance, when produce comes in, items that are not up to standard for human consumption go to a farmer to feed livestock, and the pantry receives fresh eggs in return. To learn more about the food pantry, visit seasidefoodbank.org/ or the South Clatsop Community Food Bank Facebook page.

Calligraphy exhibition coming to library March 8

Calligraphy from Page 1A

started her education in calligraphy at the age of 14. She was trained by a student of Lloyd Reynolds at Reed College.

At 18, she attended what is now the Oregon College of Arts and Crafts in northwest Portland.

“I always thought I would pursue an art career,” Read said. “I majored in fine arts at the University of Oregon. But I didn’t finish my degree there; and later received a master’s degree in public administration from Portland State University— a field I worked in for many years,” said Read.

Read said that studying graphic design led her to printmaking. Today, Read works in her Gearhart studio and teaches calligraphy part-time at Clatsop Community College.

Read said that when she is working matching images with the written word she feels she is in the realm of writers and poets.

Gilbertson began her study of calligraphy in Cannon Beach under the tutelage of Lloyd Reynolds in the 1970s. Reynolds is known as the “Father of Calligraphy” in the State of Oregon she said. In those days classes were held in the former “Haystack Programs.” They offered classes in art, poetry, music, and — calligraphy.

Gilbertson retired 10 years ago from the Seaside school

system and began study with the Portland Calligraphy Society workshops. When she returns from Portland, she offered the information she learns there to local friends with an interest in the subject. She has learned more variety in techniques and uses of calligraphy.

Kay Aya started with Marilyn Rooper who offered a class in calligraphy in Gearhart. “She introduced me to the joy of calligraphy. It is a discipline.”

Aya quotes Aristotle, who said, “Where there is discipline, there is freedom.” Aya said she also heard this quote from Lloyd Reynolds as he worked with students. She said that so much goes on underneath the creation of calligraphy and that she is always thinking about it until she selects her next subject. “I look for words to elevate in an artistic way. A pen can be a magic wand for a calligrapher,” she said.

Former Astoria High School Art teacher Bill Gunderson was a friend of Lloyd

Reynolds and a teacher of calligraphy, Aya said. He started many students on a life-long interest in the subject.

Steve Jobs was also influenced by the teachings of Reynolds at Reed College, Aya added, and used this influence in his development of fonts.

Rebecca Read is shown here in her Gearhart studio as she prepares to begin a new project. Read teaches calligraphy part time at Clatsop Community College.

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Billboard warning of consequences of driving under the influence in Seaside.

Recreational marijuana sales coming to Seaside

Pot from Page 1A

manner of licensing,” Cupples said.

The ordinance, which was read by title and supported by councilors unanimously, would subject retail sellers of marijuana to the same city rules as govern the medical market.

These require a 1,000-foot separation between sellers, and 1,000-foot distance from schools.

“What we’ve done is take the ordinance and changed the wording around enough so it will in fact recognize recreational,” Cupples said. “If the council deems it appropriate, the staff will look at the recreational grow facilities and processing facilities just as we have for medical in industrial zones.”

Highway 420 and Cannabis Nation are the only licensed dispensaries in Seaside.

Both have applied to the city for recreational sales permits, prompting the city to enact the rules to encompass recreational facilities, Cupples said.

The proposed ordinance will further limit the available locations for dispensaries or recreational sales.

Even with land-use boundaries, there may still be room for more dispensaries or retailers to open in Seaside.

“It’s going to be limited because you’re bound with what those circles are,” Cupples said. “Right now, there may be enough room to add another dispensary and/or recreational, depending on if this ordinance passes. Anything that meets all those provisions that is still zoned commercial.”

Rec sales coming at end of year

Recreational marijuana is only available at licensed medical marijuana dispensaries. According to the state, retail recreational sales are expected to begin in the fourth quarter of 2016. Marijuana will be distributed by those who hold an OLCC recreational marijuana license. The measure does not specifically address the number of retail outlets allowed. Specifics for licensing retail outlets will be part of the rule-making process that is currently underway.

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