

VRDs: Annual vacation rental permit fee to rise \$400 across the board

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The fee increase, Winstanley said, will “allow for generation of enough money to pay for costs associated with the compliance officer.”

These could include salary, benefits and necessary equipment.

In public comment, Seaside resident Joyce Hunt “highly encouraged” council members to increase the annual permit fee.

“We really need to get ordinance enforcement,” Hunt said. “This is the first

step, and I hope we can keep it going.”

There are about 275 vacation rental dwellings in Seaside, Winstanley said, the majority designated small or medium. Current rates for from one-to-five occupants is \$75; medium, six-to-10 occupants, \$100; and 11-plus, \$150.

Resident John Dunzer, owner of a one-bedroom bed-and-breakfast in the Cove, objected to the increase.

“My little bed-and-breakfast — one room with two occupants — has had a 633% increase. If you tiered

it the way you had it before, my price would go from \$475 to \$275.”

Winstanley said the increase was based on the cost of a visit to a property by a compliance officer, which would generally be the same regardless of a property’s size.

“The reason we made them all the same, was basically because the work is all the same,” he said.

With business licenses sent out in December, the council needed to act immediately to pass the ordinance in time for the new year.

Councilor Dana Phillips showed little appetite for delay.

“If we start dragging our feet, it’s not going to go into effect for months,” Phillips said. “Isn’t that why we had two workshops? Isn’t this why the Planning Commission has done all the work they’ve done? I think we need to move forward.”

Councilor Tom Horning echoed her comments, and defended the \$400 fee hike across all occupancy ranges.

“The idea of having fees set in order to meet a budget for an employee who is

going to be hired to oversee this is an important part of the process,” Horning said. “If you start cutting discounts for certain parts, you start unfunding the position. I’d recommend moving forward with this.”

Councilors Seth Morrisey, Randy Frank, Tita Montero and Steve Wright added their voices in support of the ordinance. Mayor Jay Barber was absent.

One more council reading remains, on Oct. 28, before the new fee structure goes into effect 30 days later.

Future changes to the

ordinance could be ahead, including incentives for property owners with a good record or who use a management company.

While exact numbers remain to be determined, Winstanley said he is confident the across-the-board increase will cover costs associated with the compliance officer.

“I think one of the things the council probably in the future could take a look might be to mitigate that increase, but right now I’m comfortable that will cover it,” Winstanley said.

Floofs: Furry critters don costumes for good causes

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life, came from Portland as members of the League of Extraordinary Floofs.

While most members come from the Portland and Seattle area, past participants have come from as far as Scotland and Singapore.

Seaside is a popular destination for the costumed crusaders.

“Seaside has several advantages,” Lamp said. “The biggest is the atmosphere of the city and the focus on the community that the city itself has,” Lamp said. “Not all cities have this. Imagine me taking this group into say downtown Portland. You’d get all sorts of reaction but it wouldn’t necessarily be a good reception. Everyone here is generally here to relax, so



Floofs gathered at the Turnaround Saturday for photos and fundraising for local charities.

we’re able to match that atmosphere.

The floofs are interested in returning to Seaside, but don’t expect to see them at the Fourth of July or the Miss Oregon parade in July, when the temperatures are on the rise.

But the Christmas parade could be a future destination event for the group. “If the weather ever does get us, we’ll scramble for umbrellas, or we’ll hide inside,” he said.

The group will be in Seaside a few days, but they’ll likely be incognito, Lamp said. “It’s our vacation.”

“It’s been a growing group for quite a number of years, but it’s still not something you’re going to see everyday. We really appreciate all the support from the community and the city.”

Clinic: Offering treatment for substance abuse disorders

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more people become aware of its existence.

Worth said she “works on the CODA side,” while co-project manager Sydney Van Dusen works on community partnerships and construction budget. Worth credits Anderson Dabrowski Architects and the construction of Randy Stemper for “keeping things moving forward with the build.”

Along with the reception area, the clinic will have four dispensary windows, multiple medical exam rooms, group rooms for counseling, a records room, DEA-approved safes for medication security, and a staff break room. Fifteen health care professionals will be working at the location every day.

Alison Worth is executive director of CODA; Dr. Eve Klein is the medical director for CODA’s



Eve Marx

Dr. Eve Klein, medical director for CODA’s Portland Recovery Center and Jennifer Worth, project manager and consultant for the CODA Seaside clinic, were on hand to greet visitors to the new treatment center on South Roosevelt Drive.

Portland Recovery Center. While the majority of patients anticipated to come through the door will be insured through Medicaid, she expects any low-income

patient can qualify for treatment at the Seaside location as long as they can provide legitimate identification who they are and where they live.

COUNCILOR ASKS FOR PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

The clinic’s future opening was a topic for Monday night’s Seaside City Council meeting, with councilors Steve Wright and Tita Montero having attended the Sunday open house.

Montero asked clinic staff to hold open community forums prior to opening. “I think there’s a lot of explaining and education that can go on in our community, so I’m hoping they will take that suggestion seriously,” Montero said.

— R.J. Marx

Halloween: Events include pumpkin carving contest

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to 3 p.m. with free activities for the family; Halloween parades follow at 3:30, beginning with the pet costume parade, followed by the surrey parade at 4.

Pick and decorate a surrey at Wheel Fun Rentals at Columbia at Ocean Way between 3 and 4 p.m.; rain or shine. Additional walkers are invited to trail behind the surrey as it goes down Broadway. Participants can throw candy to paradegoers. Trophies will be awarded for the best decorated surrey. Reserve a surrey by Wednesday, Oct. 23, at admin@seasidedowntown.com.

Next up, families are invited to “Trunk or Treat,” a fun, safe Halloween event where people gather and park their cars, open their trunks, decorate them and pass candy and play family-friendly games. Adults are asked not to wear masks that cover their faces.

For Trunk or Treat, park at the Seashore Inn parking lot at 60 N. Prom, and decorate from 4 to 5 p.m. The parade begins at 5 and will continue downtown until 7. Spots must be reserved by Oct. 23.

“Midnight at the Masquerade,” the murder mystery



Jeff Ter Har

Halloween Happenin’s, 2018.

dinner and show, takes place at 6 p.m. inside the Shilo Inn Seaside Oceanfront, lower level, 30 N. Prom, Seaside; 503-738-6403.

A Halloween dance and costume party takes place at the American Legion, with dinner served from 5 to 10 p.m. and music from 8 p.m. throughout the evening. On the menu are “burgers anyway you want them,” with onion rings and fries. The country music power duo “It Takes Two” provides entertainment. Prizes will be given for best Halloween costume; 1315 Broadway, Seaside.

And the Times Theatre hosts “The Karaoke Kings,” live-band karaoke, presented by 94.9 The Bridge, from 9

to 11 p.m., before Saturday’s “Rocky Horror” showing.

On Sunday, Oct. 27, “The Big Pumpkin Drop” takes place at noon outside the Seaside Public Parking Lot. Watch as a more than 40-pound pumpkin is dropped from 40 feet; weather permitting. The forklift will be on the east side of the parking lot, by Edgewood. Between 11 a.m. and noon, SDDA will be taking bets from the audience on where the farthest piece of pumpkin will land. Bets will be \$5 and winner receives half the pot and the other half will go towards a high school group volunteering their time as cleanup crew for the pumpkin drop.

PUMPKIN DECORATING

All Seaside businesses and Seaside Downtown Development Association members are invited to participate in the pumpkin-carving competition.

Here are the rules:

- Provide your own Pumpkin
- Drop off pumpkins before noon on Saturday, Oct. 26, at the Pumpkin patch located on Columbia during Halloween Happenin’s

Winner will be announced on Halloween, Oct. 31, at the SDDA breakfast meeting.

City officials will decide which pumpkin is the winner. Winner will receive a cool plaque AND bragging rights for the next year!

Get your bets in on where the farthest piece of pumpkin will land — the winner gets half the pot.

And Sunday night... one more chance for “Rocky Horror” at The Times Theatre. Until next year.

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