

Mayor Kinsky declares May 20 Banks Bike to Work Day

by Jodi Boylan

Mayor John Kinsky got to do the “fun” part of his job at the May 10 Banks City Council meeting. The City of Banks observed National Drinking Water Week, May 1-7, with the city’s second annual National Drinking Water Week Coloring Contest. Kinsky called up each winner individually, and shook their hands as he handed them a certificate and prize. This year’s winners for the 2-6 year-old category were Brooklyn Janeway in 1st place, Aidan Kroo in 2nd place, and Jackson Henderson in 3rd place. For the 7-9 year-old category, 1st place went to Martial Stegemeier, Alyssa Greagor placed 2nd, and Ayyub Diani placed 3rd. In the 10-12 year-old category, El-lie Schmidlin took 1st place, Hannah White was 2nd, and 3rd place went to Brantley

McKinnon.

Roberta Sommer presented the mayor with A Trees for All – Community Stream Planting Challenge plaque. City of Banks residents have helped plant 1.1 million native plants in the Tualatin River Watershed since 2005.

A certificate of Appreciation was presented to Councilor Craig Stewart recognizing his wife, Tami Stewart, for her dedicated service to the city by serving on the Banks Tree Advisory Board.

Kinsky read Banks Bicycle Month Proclamation, then presented it to Hal Ballard. The proclamation noted that the bicycle has been an important part of the lives of Americans for more than a century, and that millions of Americans engage in bicycling because it is a viable and environmentally sound form of transportation, as well as an excellent form of recreation and physical activity, when safely driven. The League of American Bicyclists has declared the month of May as National Bike Month for 55 years. Kinsky, with the support of the City Council, declared May 20 as Banks Bike to Work Day.

Council noted that many people are using Banks-Vernonia Trail as a biking resource, that the parking lot is full on the weekends, and that people are parking and unloading their bikes on Main Street. With a smile on his face, Ballard commented, “If you build it, they will come.”

After introducing himself as the Banks weekend warrior and fill-in for Deputy Patrick Chertude, Washington County Sheriff’s Deputy Bobby Wormington briefed council on police activity for the month of April. Wormington commented that he is “kinda new” at this, but that he used Chertude’s format for his report. According to Wormington there were 146 documented incidents in the city. There were 38 public service requests, three arrests, 67 traffic stops, 16 citations, and 12 written reports. A call for a domestic disturbance resulted in a DUII arrest; other calls were for criminal mischief at Sunset Park, theft of a bicycle at Banks High School, fraud, driving while suspended, and a report of sexual crimes involving an under-aged victim which detectives are investigating.

Raymond Deeth stood in as the Planning Commission Liaison. According to Deeth the Planning Commissioners are studying the land use information section by section. After a

public hearing the commission approved the Banks Library remodel project.

City Manager Jim Hough presented the City Manager Report:

- The City of Banks is working with Washington County Cooperative Library Services staff to revise and update the Public Library Services Agreement (PLSA) and the WCCLS Information Network Agreement. Hough anticipates the WCCLS Executive Board will vote to approve the drafts at its May meeting and he hopes to have both documents on the June Council Agenda for approval.

- The City is working with the Banks Historical Society on its annual renewal of the Log Cabin Lease Agreement. There are no anticipated changes; Hough hopes to have approval of the new lease on the June Council Agenda.

- The city has received notification that, as expected, DLCD is applying to LCDC to appeal the recent ordinance adopting the Banks Parks & Recreation Master Plan, which brings Quail Valley Golf Course into the Banks UGB.

- Banks Earth Day at Banks Elementary School went quite well. A lot of recycled material was collected and the swale behind the school was cleaned.

- The city is working with

Agility Recovery, Inc. and Servpro on pre-disaster planning for business continuity and cleanup after disaster. The city will hold a pre-disaster planning meeting in mid-June at City Hall. City staff has been advised that Servpro is opening a new facility in Cornelius on Friday, May 13, and the public is invited from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. to see what they have in the way of cleanup equipment.

- A water customer has requested that return envelopes be added to the water bills. This option has been reviewed again and it is too expensive as well as wasteful. A large number of customers deliver their water bill payments directly to City Hall, or to the 24-hour drop box at the entrance to City Hall.

Council unanimously approved the purchase of a backhoe from the City of Harrisburg in two payments of \$2,000 each, during fiscal year 2011-2012. The water utility needs a backhoe that could also be used for a number of public works projects. The city’s Public Works Supervisor has seen the vehicle and advised that it is a good purchase.

Council approved renewing the Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreement with Washington County for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.

The next Banks City Council Meeting will be held at City Hall, on June 14, at 7:00 p.m.

Two from Banks earn honors

Kelsii Jo Dana and Tiffany Ann Gentzkow, both of Banks were named on the Western Oregon University Winter Term 2011 honor roll.

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