

Depoe Bay Economic Business Development Committee
Regular Meeting – Wednesday, August 7, 2013 -6:00 pm.
Depoe Bay City Hall

Present: Noelie Achen, Pat Dunlop, Robert Gambino, Michael Granat, Ken White

City Staff: Pery Murray, City Recorder

Gambino called the meeting to order and established a quorum at 6:00 pm. He noted that Ordinance # 296, which re-establishes the Committee, specifies that the Council member cannot serve as Chair or Vice-Chair. He offered to act as Chair until the Committee has full membership and elects its officers. There was no objection.

Member Introductions

Everyone provided a brief personal background and explained why they are interested in serving on this Committee. Gambino, City Council member, wants to explore ideas to bolster the community and the economy and would like to see more events. White, as the Parks Commission member, can liaison ideas between the two groups. Dunlop, resident/business owner, spoke of her previous experience serving on the Economic Business Development Committee and would like to look at ideas from that time again as well as new ideas. Achen, Harbor Commission member, is interested in business, events and advertisement. Granat, Chamber of Commerce member, would like to see Depoe Bay do more to show off what it has to offer.

Public Input

Michael Kiefer agreed with Dunlop in that “old” ideas should be re-looked at, and said he’s been working with Gambino on event ideas, such as an Octoberfest.

NEW BUSINESS – Purpose and Goals

The Powers and Duties section of Ordinance 296 were reviewed and everyone agreed with the stated goals and purpose of the Committee.

NEW BUSINESS – Committee Name

After discussion it was agreed, by consensus, to recommend to the City Council that the Committee name be changed to “Depoe Bay Economic Development Committee”.

Committee meeting dates and times were discussed. It was agreed to meet on the first Thursday of every month at 7:00 pm.

Committee members wish to have a member list with telephone numbers and email addresses for their use. Staff will prepare and distribute to members. Murray cautioned members to not enter into email “conversations” and/or dialogue exchanges about Committee business since this constitutes a public meeting per Oregon law.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS OR CONCERNS

Committee and audience members discussed the following: A need for street sweeping, pressure washing of sidewalks, and placement of cigarette butt receptacles around town; desire for local contractors to get the city’s business instead of out-of-town contractors, city must be in compliance with public contracting laws; out-of-town contractors obtaining city business licenses as required by ordinance;

need for crosswalk guards in bright green T- shirts, or a bucket with flags for people to use; re-configuration needed on sidewalk ADA ramp in front of Dunlop’s store; need to stencil “motorcycle parking” at the motorcycle parking spaces in front of Joan-E Gifts; parking affects this Committee as well as the Traffic Safety Commission or the Planning Commission; signs are needed to let people know where parking lots are; impose time limit parking, maybe limit to 6 hours; construct a centrally located parking structure off Collins St., seek state funding for the project; different coupon promotion ideas for businesses (Channel 12-FOX, Depoe Dollars); chowder or fish taco cook-off events; fish and chips dinners; progressive dinners – “A Bite of Depoe Bay” with coffee, candy , meals, etc.; different food related activities, artisan fairs, farmers markets and craft fairs in the City Park; including existing merchants in events; stores should be encouraged to stay open later; use of the harbor area for more events; scheduling of events (some can’t participate in August since too busy, ie; Pirates would have more local participation if in September or October instead of August); local businesses are very supportive of events; hold a Whale’s Tail contest similar to Redmond’s Walk the Art event with wooden cows; get local high schools involved in events; look at a different location and bring fireworks back; July 3rd sidewalk sale, started last year in lieu of fireworks, works fine for merchants with private sidewalk area, most stores don’t have that since storefronts are at the state sidewalk; hanging flowers, banners and flags to dress up the sidewalk areas; enacting a fishing village theme; ability to enforce ordinances; hold a whale spout at midnight.

Gambino distributed a list of ideas he’d prepared (copy attached to the original of these minutes), encouraging members to do research and bring ideas to the next meeting. Achen commented the Christmas tree last Christmas was bad, Dunlop recalled when the Neighbors For Kids (NFK) organization sold trees with handmade decorations.

The next meeting will be Thursday, September 5th at 7:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 pm.

Robert Gambino, Temporary Chair

Pery Murray, City Recorder