



# Oak Grove Community Council

## Regular Council Business Meeting September 25, 2019 Minutes

**What:** Regular Council Business Meeting - Oak Grove Community Council  
**When:** September 25, 2019 - 7:00 p.m. to 8:50 p.m.  
**Where:** Performing Arts Center at Rose Villa - 13505 SE River Road, Oak Grove

### VOTING OGCC MEMBERS PRESENT: 29

Tom Andrews, Mary Bailey, Bob Bohannon, Susan Cassuto, Kathleen Chapman, Valerie Chapman, Jane Civiletti, Sue Conachan, Jeannine Defyler, Dave Dobak, Jan Dobak, Lynn Fisher, Dave Gray, Thelma Haggenmiller, Joan Hamilton, Eleanore Hunter, Chips Janger, Annette Guarriello, Jan Lindstrom, Jim Meyer, Gwion Miller, Elaine Plaisance, Paul Savas, Jason Schreppel, Al Scott, Linda Seals, Baldwin van der Bijl, Greg Wenneson, Bob Zimmer

### NON-VOTING OGCC MEMBERS PRESENT: 2

Craig Fife, Ana Hoesly

### VISITORS & GUESTS: 7

Anita August, David August, Connie Held, Michael Hoeye, Martha Banyas, Linda Newbloom, Pam Horan

#### 7:00 **Welcome, Introductions, and Officer Reports:**

Vice Chair Valerie Chapman announced she was filling in for Chair Joseph Edge who was absent from the meeting to take his wife out for her birthday. Valerie invited board members to introduce themselves. She then passed the mic and invited members of the audience to introduce themselves and say where they live. After introductions, Valerie called for officer's reports. Secretary Jan Lindstrom asked if there were any corrections or additions to the August meeting minutes. There being none, the minutes were approved as distributed. Treasurer Jane Civiletti announced the previous OGCC checking account balance as \$2501.00. We received \$37.00 in cash donations at the prior meeting, bringing our new total to \$2538.00.

#### 7:10 **Program:**

- **Local nonprofit – Storyline Community: *Anna Hoesly***  
Oak Grove resident and Storyline Community volunteer Anna Hoesly gave background on Storyline Community and upcoming opportunities to participate. The organization began years ago as a Facebook group. People wanting to make a difference realized rather than focusing on difficult to solve national or global

problems, there are needs right in own back yard. "We forgot we belonged to our community and our community belongs to us," she said. Eventually, it began to feel like part of a village. They experienced the beauty of being meaningfully rooted in the community and wanted to be part of the re-awakening of the rootedness.

Storyline Community partners with those doing good work in the community. They have two branches. In the Community Collective branch, their job is to help neighbors know the needs of people in the community. To listen to where the community needs us to most and get involved. Right now, they're working within the North Clackamas School District at Oak Grove Elementary School with wraparound support. They've learned that community involvement has impact on rates of attendance and graduation. Oak Grove Elementary has the fourth-highest rates of chronic absenteeism in the county. It's an historically underserved school.

The other branch within Storyline Community is Community of Faith. It focuses on people who don't fit into a more institutional church community, yet want to be a part of something bigger than themselves. Participants are from lots of different backgrounds, which is something Storyline Community strongly values.

In October, as part of its Community Collective Branch, they are hosting the Neighborhood Project. It begins October 8<sup>th</sup> and includes a four-session training with three speakers. The trainings are based on the principles of community organizing. When Anna learned that, it became a game-changer in funneling her efforts effectively. The organization is filled with all kinds of people in our community. It's a place to figure out how to be effective strategically. There's an article about it today in the Clackamas Review (click [here](#) to read article).

Registration for the Oct. 8 event is by tomorrow (9/26), so if you're interested, speak to Anna. Trainings take place at the Oak Grove United Methodist Church. Storyline Community is partnering with them and the Alliance for the Common Good. The fee for the four sessions is \$20 and includes child care and dinner. There's also translation available for Spanish speakers.

- **Clackamas County Transportation Maintenance Division:** *Randy Harmon, Manager*

Randy addressed Clackamas County's road maintenance activities, the other services they provide, and specifics related to the upcoming fall weather. The department falls under Transportation & Development (DTD). The County features 1,400 miles of road and a lot of that is rural. It's about 1,100 miles of rural roads and 300 miles of urban roads. They receive funding from state transportation sources and soon from much-needed Clackamas County Vehicle Registration Fees, which go into effect in January. That will be \$30 per vehicle per year.

Randy started with the Road Dept. 36 years ago in an entry-level position and has been a manager the last five years. He's "been around the County a few times" and said the maintenance of this County is a daunting task. Given the number of roads and 186 bridges, he said they've been fortunate to have received federal funding to replace some of them. The big expense that is increasing daily is traffic signs. They

maintain 26,450 traffic signs. They also stripe 700 miles annually, maintain 21 miles of guardrail and handle bridge and Canby Ferry maintenance. Water management services is also a big deal. They ensure safe fish passage, provide ditching, shoulder repair and street sweeping on every curbed road in the county. They also must track all of the materials they clean up and note how they disposes of it. They maintain right-of-way for transportation utility purposes. Technically, the property owners own the vegetation along roads, but they don't want citizens doing maintenance work on high-volume roads. They also do pothole patching. Asphalt hot plants are not running in cold months, which requires them to pack potholes temporarily with cold patches, then return in warmer months to fill them permanently. They do some crack sealing, slurry sealing and chip sealing -- also maintenance paving and contract paving. They contract out \$4.5-5 million worth of paving a year.

For pavement management, there's a surface distress rating. That helps them use the right money on the right treatment at the right time to keep the road within the top 40% of its life. It gets much more expensive to do a re-construct. One of their other main jobs is emergency response. They respond to landslides, snow, ice and flooding to help keep drivers safe. They also maintain or return the integrity of the roadway. They work to allow access for emergency vehicles in winter weather events. They're preparing now to get plows and sanders back in and set up. They stockpile sand. They keep roads clear in order of volume. And they monitor weather, road crews, public reports, and law enforcement activities and needs.

Future projects include forecasting what they're going to do in the next five years with funds from HB2017 and the Vehicle Registration Fees (VRF). They have a draft list of projects. There are a number of local roads in this area on the list. Right now, they're doing network level analysis. Then they will get to project-level analysis. One project will be in the Webster Road area. Roads off of Thiessen. The McLoughlin neighborhood. There's \$300,000 worth of work slated, so three good packages in the next 2-3 years in our area. Randy apologized for not being more specific, but said he wanted to wait until the list is final.

Recently completed projects in our area include:

- SE Portland Ave. sidewalk improvements
- SE Jennings Ave sidewalk/bike lane/crossing improvements
- SE Torbank Road sidewalk improvements

They also partner with Oak Lodge Water Services through an IGA (inter-governmental agreement). Oak Lodge Water cleans culverts and catch basins in the district. Major repairs or upgrades are the County's responsibility. "We fund and they maintain." They're also obligated to report on it.

As far as road maintenance in general, their mandate is:

- County roads: ongoing programmed maintenance
- Local access roads: no maintenance service
- Emergency services: provided in all areas

*Questions from the audience for Randy included:*

**Q:** An audience member said she has flooding in her neighborhood near New Urban High School every year. She asked how to resolve it and to whom she should speak.

**A.** Randy answered that it would be an effort between a number of different agencies. The County has drainage systems in the maintained road right-of-way, but otherwise has no jurisdiction. He asked if she had reached out to Oak Lodge Water.

**Q. pt. II:** Oak Lodge Water has looked at some of this stuff. They're wonderful about cleaning it out, but there are pipes that run under the street, and they're not big enough flow to get the water out. There's another pipe that sticks directly out of the hillside and shoots water out. Oak Grove Blvd. and the New Urban High School parking lot are always flooded.

**A.** Randy gave her one of his cards to contact him so the County could take a look at it.

Al Scott noted that North Clackamas School District should be aware of the specifics going on with New Urban High School. He suggested finding out who is in charge of the maintenance.

**Q.** One of the on-ramps to 213 is not striped and is dangerous. What can be done about that?

**A.** It sounds like an ODOT issue, so you would need to contact them.

**Q.** Who maintains street lighting?

**A.** The person in charge is Wendi Coryell. She manages the lighting district.

**Q.** On streets that don't have sidewalks, some of the neighbors plant bushes right up to street, and then you can't see when turning at the corner. Who do I call to have them contact homeowner or is there anything that can be done?

**A.** Yes, there is something that can be done. If you get one of those cards I'm passing out that lists contacts to report road concerns, call that in and we will write up a service request, have one of supervisors go out and assess the situation. We make contact with the property owner to open up the site distance. Most people aren't aware that it's an issue and when we tell them they comply.

**Q.** Al Scott said he lives on Waldern Road, which runs parallel to Torbank. His wife doesn't like to walk on the street because it's so pothole-rough. Waldern Road is very, very uneven, patched to the hilt. How do I find out where that is on the list? It's not an arterial.

**A.** Randy replied that in the unincorporated urban area, most roads were never designed or constructed. They're just gravel roads that got a hard surface on them that has been there for 40 years. There also have been instances of housing developments where the roads got a facelift, but were never really fixed. And traffic volumes have more than quadrupled on our roads, so they're doing more road striping at night to avoid holding up traffic. The congestion, traffic and capacity on our road system is not good. It's a balancing act.

**Q.** Who decided the pie split for transportation funding?

**A.** The Department of Transportation.

**Q.** Bob Bohanan said he lives on SE Laurie, which was torn up pretty bad when they were re-doing the Oak Lodge sewer plant. Utility work done many years ago resulted in lousy patch jobs and the road has sunk with excess construction traffic.

When they did the utility work on Laurie, residents were told the utility company would correct it. It's a pretty rough little spot, but the repair still hasn't been done. It doesn't seem like anyone's paying attention to utility work. At Rose Villa, there are two huge cuts and patches on the bluff and on Laurie, they're putting in utilities and new water mains. They came in and put in a new gas line underneath Laurie. It looks like a sixth-grader did it. It's already dropped about half an inch in a month. They wrecked a nice residential road.

**A.** Randy said they requires a utility permit to work in the roadway and whoever pulls that permit is responsible for the final outcome. If there's an issue, the County researches it and asks them to come back out and fix it. With all of the development going on, it's a constant challenge, but we do have inspectors who check on that.

- **Discussion about Inclusivity and Improving Community Participation**

Valerie explained that at OGCC board meetings, we've been talking about creating more diversity and inclusion at our general meetings. We have a huge geographic area, but we still don't reach a lot of people. She invited everyone to participate in a quick brainstorming session in smaller groups on how we can include more people in our meetings.

*Ideas presented from the brainstorming session included:*

- Connecting with community organizations, like schools and churches, to see if they could send representatives to the meeting.
  - Announcing upcoming meetings at the new Oak Grove Comedy Club
  - Putting out flyers
  - Announcing meetings on Oak Grove Chitchat
  - Announcing meetings on Next Door, including the agenda.
  - Incorporate, because then we would be more relevant
  - Make our meetings more interesting. Visit the Jennings Lodge meetings, which are reportedly more entertaining than ours, to learn what they do.
  - Hold meetings at a variety of times so more people could attend; or at other locations.
  - Reach out to non-English speaking members of our community to figure out what would be appealing to them or meet their needs.
  - Bring in the Oak Lodge Library's Seed Library group to talk about gardening.
  - Have a block party.
  - Host a meeting at a local eatery.
  - Invite people to nominate local citizens for an Oak Grove Community Council Recognition Award.
- Valerie also said the board has discussed how to be more accessible to people when they first come to a meeting. For a long time, it's been that you need to come to five meetings before you're considered a member who can vote. The council would like to discuss whether or not we should drop that number down to two meetings, so that more people who come have an opportunity to vote. In case it's hard for them to make night meetings, but they see there's an issue that's important to them, they would have an opportunity to attend and wouldn't be locked out of voting. She asked the membership to give the concept consideration so we could discuss it at a future meeting.

- Land Use Application Review Team (LUART): *Greg Wenneson*

*Old business:*

- **Z0335-19 -- 5125 SE El Centro Way**  
Two-lot Partition. Zoned R-10. Status: Approved 9/23
- **Z0344-19 / Z0345-19 -- 17025 SE Oatfield Road**  
Two-lot Partition/Variance. Zoned R-8.5.  
Status: Partition -- Pending  
Variance – Approved
- **Z0174-19 -- 5501 SE Thiessen Road**  
King of Kings Overnight Safe Shelter Temporary Permit  
Zoned R-10. Status: Approved 8/7. Appeal Hearing: 9/19.  
Hearings Officer Actions on 9/19:
  - Set two weeks for new evidence (October 3, 2019)
  - Set one-week response to new evidence (October 10, 2019)
  - One week for applicant’s final argument.

Valerie gave an update about changes the church was making to comply with community requests. She explained that at the appeal hearing on 9/19, the hearings officer set two weeks for new evidence to be submitted (Oct. 3) and gave one week for the response to new evidence (Oct. 10), then one week for the applicant's final argument. There's an impasse over the screening process for participants. In the end, there was so much new evidence that the judge recommended more time to look at the new evidence. So that's where it is. The info is on the County website. Click [here](#) to read. Staff contact: Andrew Yaden, [Ayaden@clackamas.us](mailto:Ayaden@clackamas.us).

- **Z0344-19 & Z0345-19 -- 17025 SE Oatfield Road**  
Two-lot Partition/Variance. Zoned R-8.5.  
Petition: Pending  
Variance: Approved
- **Z0400-19 -- 2519 SE Vineyard Way**  
Dock in Willamette River Greenway. Zoned R-10.  
Status: Completeness Review

*New Business:*

- **Z0388-19 -- 15015 SE McLoughlin Blvd.**  
Design Review for new Clackamas Federal Credit Union HQ.  
Zoned C-3. Status: Pending.

Greg said LUART noted a few issues with the application:

1. The only pedestrian connection from the building to the sidewalk is a walkway accessible only by stairs. This won't work for people in wheelchairs, pushing a stroller, etc. A bus stop is a short walk away. The “Community Center” entrance is visible above the stairs. People who have difficulty using stairs must navigate the drive aisles of the parking lot to access the building, while able-bodied persons enjoy the safety of the sidewalk.

2. There will be new trees planted to replace the ones coming down along a solid, blank exterior wall. This will leave a long, blank façade no longer obscured by vegetation, which is against the County code.
3. There's a generator behind the building on SE East. It's a nuisance for most, but could be dangerous for people with respiratory difficulties and is not supposed to be located there.
4. A utility pole – one of four – completely blocks access for people using wheelchairs or other mobility aids on SE East Ave, which is part of Clackamas County's "Essential Pedestrian Network."
5. The building is planned for only two loading bays. A building of this size is supposed to have three. They may ask for a variance because they might not need all of them.

*Question: What does the OGCC recommend to the County?*

1. Approve, with LUART recommended conditions
2. Approve, with amended conditions
3. Deny, based on not meeting specific approval criteria
4. Take no action (no motion required)

*The conditions the OGCC is requesting:*

- ADA compliant walkway
- Widen sidewalk
- Use shapes, colors, materials to avoid single long wall
- Comply with minimum number of off-street loading berths

*Discussion:*

- Baldwin van der Bijl pointed out that taking out and moving power polls can be very expensive. He suggested they could put in an "eyebrow" or dig back and put in retaining wall, which Greg agreed could be a solution.

**Q.** Someone asked if anything could be done to save some of the trees that are planned to come down?

**A.** Greg said he didn't know, because once they get to a certain size and start to threaten the building, it becomes an issue. An arborist report supports taking them out.

- **MOTION:** Gwion Miller moved that we recommend approving the application with conditions. Eleanore Hunter seconded.

*Discussion:*

- Bob Bohannon said that even with only two loading docks, the credit union is an upgrade from an empty building. Not enough loading docks might not be an issue if they don't need that many.
- Greg noted that they'll need to have three to comply with the code, appeal or request a variance.

*Call for the question:*

**The MOTION carried.**

- **Z0392-19 -- 15515 SE Wallace Road**  
Two-lot partition. Zoned R-10. Status: Pending.  
LUART recommends that they use the existing trees rather than taking out the trees, putting in sidewalks, then replacing the trees. The road is part of the essential pedestrian network. The homeowner would need to add the sidewalks

because it's new development. So we're just recommending using the existing trees rather than removing and planting with smaller trees. Does the membership agree?

**MOTION:** Eleanore Hunter moved that we take action # 1, approve with LUART recommended conditions. Jane Civiletti seconded.

**The MOTION carried.**

○ **Z0403-19 -- 3811 SE Concord Road**

Temporary Permit - Netflix filming at Concord School.

Zoned R-7/R-8.5. Status: Pending

LUART recommends that the parking not cause problems to existing use of the Concord School. Does the membership concur?

**MOTION:** Eleanore Hunter moved that we recommend approving with LUART recommended conditions. Jeannine Defyler seconded.

**The MOTION carried.**

8:20 **Committee updates:**

○ **Ped-Bike Committee – OG/LO Ped/Bike Bridge:** Paul Savas

Paul is one of the elected officials on the policy advisory committee. They've been studying 9-10 potential bridge alignments and after the open houses, have narrowed it down to three on each side. The preferred landing spot on our side is on Courtney just as it turns on Fair Oaks. The County owns the right-of-way all the way down, so the bridge would land approximately there. A few weeks ago, at the Trolley Trail Festival, he put up a booth to get feedback from the community. About 65% of the comments were negative toward the bridge. Paul said he's been in favor of the concept, personally. He's also getting frequent emails about it. He urged the Council to communicate their position to the BCC. He offered to leave some of his cards for people to contact him and said commissioners are getting feedback and most of the feedback is not in support of it. On the Lake Oswego side, the landing could go to Foothills Park or Tryon Creek Park. There's no parking on either side. Parking's a big issue. Paul emphasized that it doesn't matter what he feels, but the BCC is going to discuss this and make a decision, so it's important they find out what the community thinks. Our input matters. He also said he was kind of surprised at the recent response, because when this first came up as a possibility, there were a lot of people in favor of it. There's some resistance now.

*Questions from the audience:*

**Q.** Eleanore asked what were the results of the open houses and all the data collected?

**A.** Paul said they categorized all the feedback and put it into buckets to address it. That input has been heard. The concerns are being heard more so than those in favor of the project. You are being heard. The Commissioners wants to know how you all think. Talk to members of the OGCC board to send a letter to the commission.

**Q.** Jason Schreppel said he supported the bridge the way it was presented originally -- a feasibility study, different options. Now that we're seeing the options, as a resident, he sees both sides of it. It's a peaceful, quaint, quiet neighborhood. Everyone has concerns about the impact. Now they're considering buses? It's a very residential road. Imagine a lot of bicyclists and buses and things, not to mention the fact that there are two houses facing where the County has the right-of-way.

**A.** Paul said at the policy meetings, the Metro President has pushed for studying running a bus over the bridge, transit, which really changes the game. He pushed backed on that, talked about the process being unfair. They said they wanted to accelerate the time frame, but now they extended it 30 days. The decision needs to be made by the end of October. I recommend you talk to the leadership of the Council. Your input matters. This could be one of the Metro bond projects funded in tier two. There may be money for it if the voters approve it.

**Q.** A member said he did not see sufficient commuter traffic on the Trolley Trail to justify a bridge to Lake Oswego. On the NIMBY (Not In My Back Yard) issue, he said they supported the new sewage plant for years. That services the entire area, so they didn't feel the least bit bad. This is different. It doesn't seem to be servicing the two areas. Seeing Lake Oswego use it to commute into Portland doesn't make sense either.

**A.** Paul said there has been more opposition on the west side than on the east side. He asked for a show of hands in favor of the bridge. It looked to be about 65% against, the same as what he heard at the Trolley Trail Fest. He added that Metro will vote on this December 10<sup>th</sup>.

8:40 **Announcements:**

- The next **Park Avenue Advisory Committee meeting** will take place Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> at Rose Villa in the Training Room from 6-8 p.m.
- **Clackamas County Advisory Boards and Commissions (ABCs) - Open Recruitments:**
  - **Committee for Community Involvement**  
Members advise the Board of County Commissioners and county staff on the development and coordination of community involvement programs that promote and enhance public participation.  
The deadline for applications is **October 31**.
  - **Vector Control District**  
Members serve in an advisory capacity to the Board of County Commissioners while acting as the policy-making body, managers of the business, and financial affairs of the Clackamas County Vector Control District. The District is responsible for the control of mosquitoes and flies, of which some are disease-carrying vectors.  
The deadline for applications is **October 31**.
- **HDOG (Historic Downtown Oak Grove) Knock or Treat** – Eleanore Hunter  
Eleanore announced the third-annual Historic Downtown Oak Grove Knock or Treat Halloween Event at the Oak Grove United Methodist Church, Saturday, Oct. 26 from

4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Kids dress up in costume and go trick-or-treating at the decorated doors inside the church. Lots of candy, crafts and an ancestral candle-lighting.

8:45 **Schedule review:**

- Future OGCC Meetings - 7 pm at Rose Villa - Performing Arts Center:  
**Oct 23**, Dec 4 (combined Nov/Dec meeting), Jan 22, 2020
- Future OGCC Board Meetings - 6:45 pm at Oak Lodge Fire Station:  
**Oct 3**, Nov 7, Jan 2, 2020

8:53 **Adjourn**