

CPO 1 notes for Dec. 12, 2017 meeting

Compiled by Mary D. Edwards, CPO 1 secretary

Following are the topics that were discussed in the meeting:

- A report on public safety from a Washington County sheriff focused on the fires at new or under-construction houses in North Bethany. The sheriff said his department is “working on it” but could give no new information than what has been reported.
- THPRD report: The parks district had little to report other than swim sessions, including a free swim Jan. 5 and a meeting regarding the Bluffs park that was scheduled for Dec. 14.
- State Senator Elizabeth Steiner-Hayward gave a report on state legislation. She spoke about the Oregon Health Plan and efforts to fund the larger population of Oregonians using the system and the upcoming Measure 101 to fund expected shortfall from a federal plan to its reduce contributions. She pointed out that Rep. Greg Walden’s district (the 2nd) is the biggest recipient of the expanded OHP dollars in the nation, though he has repeatedly voted to repeal the Affordable Care Act. Steiner-Hayward encouraged all to vote in favor of Measure 101.
- Christopher Hedstrom of the Oregon Dept. of Agriculture gave an update on the effort to eradicate Japanese beetles in Cedar Mill. He said the department was able to treat 2,121 properties with only two homeowners refusing to allow treatment against the beetles’ larva stage – the most effective method. Since 23,000 adult beetles were trapped in Cedar Mill this year, the effort, which is heading into year two of five, is considered vital to protecting Oregon’s agricultural and landscape industries. Hedstrom said the department will expand the treatment area, including the containment area for yard debris for 2018. Approximately three times as many residents will be notified for their ok to treat their properties. He asked CPO 1 audience members to reach out to their neighbors to turn in consent forms, and assist the department on notifying homeowners’ associations and other community groups.
- The final event of the evening was a follow-up on the Cedar Mill Creek Flood Remediation Collaborative Project, specifically what residents can do to deal with flooding this rainy season. Shannon Huggins and Rocky Brown from Clean Water Services and Melissa DeLyser, communications manager for the county’s Land Use and Transportation agency, talked about who residents can talk to at CWS and the Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District (which earlier in the evening had presented its Small Community Conservation Grants program). There was some discussion of what homeowners could do to shore up the creek bed areas adjacent to their properties. But most of the people who live along the downstream areas south of Highway 26 and who had expressed displeasure with governmental agencies at the November CPO 1 meeting were not attendance this month.