

## MEETING CALENDAR

The City of Springfield was prominently featured in two Sunday issues of the Register Guard in August. One article was about the transformation of the Main Street with multiple new and exciting businesses, many of which are owned and operated by women. The other article was about the wonderful Chalk Art event held in downtown Springfield on Saturday August 15.

Springfield is a wonderful community and getting better every day. This improvement in Springfield is the result of a lot of work by numerous agencies and organizations. Perhaps what distinguishes Springfield from many cities is the level of collaboration and shared effort that has resulted in significant improvements in the downtown and the city at large over recent years. The potential for future growth, development and improvement is unlimited with many plans at various stages of development and implementation.

Of course a key element in the improvement of any community is the active participation of its citizens. The Springfield City Club provides just such an opportunity. Participants in the City Club have the opportunity to hear directly from and provide feedback to planners and policy makers. Your involvement is important. If you have ideas for future programs please don't hesitate to suggest them to me or another board member. The success of our city as well as the City Club is dependent upon the active engagement of citizens. Please feel free to invite your neighbors and friends to join you at the next meeting of the Springfield City Club – and thank you for your participation.

Mike Eyster,  
President

### September 3



Ken Vogney, PE, City Engineer and Emergency City of Springfield, will present "Emergency Preparedness for

Businesses in Springfield." On average, 40% of businesses affected by a disaster never reopen. Ken will discuss the role of the business community in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from disasters in Springfield.

### September 17



District 19 Interim Superintendent Susan Rieke-Smith has opened the Springfield School Year. Classes begin on September 9 and 10. The Superintendent will tell us what to look

forward to in the coming year.

## PUBLIC CALENDAR

All items are tentative and subject to change

### Springfield City Council

- September 8 (7:00 p.m.)
  - Willamalane IGA for Haul Road
  - Public Facilities and Services Plan Amendment (Glenwood)
  - Ratification of AFSCME Contract
- September 14 (work session) (6:00 p.m.)
  - Commercial and Industrial Buildable Lands Study; UGB expansion
- September 21 (5:30 p.m.)
  - Work Session
  - City Hall Seismic Project
  - Regular Meeting
- September 28 (7:00 - p.m.)
  - Joint Work Session with Lane County (UGB Amendment)

### Lane County Commissioners

- September 1
  - Envision Eugene
- September 8
  - No Meeting
- September 15
  - Public Facilities and Services Plan Amendment (Glenwood)
- September 22
- September 28
  - Joint Work Session with Springfield Council (UGB Amendment)

### Lane Transit District

- September 18, 5:30 -p.m.
  - Payroll tax

### Willamalane Park and Recreation District

### School District 19

- September 14
  - Business meeting 7:00 p.m.
- September 28
  - Work Session 4:00 p.m.

**Meetings described as work sessions generally do not offer opportunities for public comment.**

## August Meetings

### August 6

Erik Burke, the local representative of Friends of Trees, reviewed the operations of the organization in the local area. Friends of Trees is a nonprofit organization supporting the planting and care of street trees in the northwest. Originally operating only in Oregon, the organization has expanded its operating into Vancouver, Washington. The program's model revolves around securing donations of trees or funds to acquire trees and other supplies. The trees are planted by volunteer work groups when adjoining property owners make a commitment to maintain the trees. The organization has successfully planted trees in Portland and Eugene and has an agreement with Springfield to plant trees there in the coming months.

Mr. Burke said that a major challenge in maintain the urban forest, much of which is represented by street trees, is making sure that the right tree is planted in the right place. Historically, tree lists planted with development have often been bad choices for the location. Both Eugene and Springfield have updated their list of approved street trees, although, he said, the Springfield list could use further refinement.

In response to a question, Mr. Burke, observed that it is a misconception to believe that street trees can be selected from species that develop a deep tap root. Although some trees can be "trained" to develop a taproot structure, virtually all trees will typical extend routes horizontally. This means that particular care needs to be exercised when planting trees in parting strips which exist between the curb and sidewalks where setback sidewalks are installed. Mr. Burke also offered his personal preference for curbside sidewalks, because of the risk to sidewalks posed by planting trees in parting strips. Poor planting choices can lead to damaged sidewalks. He noted that, as a general rule, governments can't plant trees behind curbside sidewalks because that would involve planting trees on public property.

Since the strip between the curb and the sidewalk is typically part of right of way controlled by the government, public planting occurs there. While trees planted there provide a buffer between the street and private residences, that position leads to confusion over responsibility for care and maintenance of the trees and for damage caused to the sidewalk by the trees, (Typically, city codes make the property owner responsible for damage to the sidewalk.) Founded by Richard Seidman in 1989, Friends of Trees has gathered thousands of volunteers to plant more than half a million trees and native plants. In fall 2014, Friends of Trees celebrated its 25th planting season.

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Board of Directors Meeting  
August 4, 2015

**Board Members Present:** Mike Eyster, Len Goodwin, Michelle Bixler, Chris Kline, Jeff Thompson, John Tamulonis, Kay Hyde-Patton, Merlyn Hough, Terry Beyer and Steve Moe

**Board Members Absent:** Jim McHugh and Merlyn Hyde

**Others Present:** Carolyn Miller and Marilou Heriot from The Washburne Café.

1. 11:45 Meeting was called to order by Mike Eyster.
2. Minutes from the July 7, 2015 meeting were reviewed. Len Goodwin moved to accept, Kay Hyde-Patton 2<sup>nd</sup>.
3. Mike Eyster led a discussion regarding the City Club's website, stating that there were four areas to be addressed:
  - 1) Current Webmaster has resigned
  - 2) The new website has been built, but not activated
  - 3) Paying on line still needs to happen
  - 4) Current website is on Patrick's (former webmaster) server and needs to be moved.

Jeff Thompson talked a little bit about what was involved and what was needed. Len Goodwin offered to host the website on his server with the caveat that his is satellite based. Carolyn Miller suggested getting an intern from the University for a webmaster. Terry Beyer brought up the concern of continuity with an intern. It was decided that Len Goodwin will contact Patrick regarding moving the new website to his server and Len will also fill out the certification to get the on line processing started. The finding of a webmaster and the actual starting of receiving payments on line will wait until fall.

4. Board Reports

- a. Financial: John Tamulonis will be contacting Banner Bank for more information regarding the \$240 deduction from the bank account.
- b. Programs: Terry Beyer stated that there is not a confirmed speaker for the September 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting, Sue Rieke-Smith is scheduled for the September 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. The board talked about other potential topics and/or speakers:
  - Disaster Preparedness – Matt McRae & Ken Vogeney
  - Dept. of Labor / BOLI - Brad Avakian
  - New DA – Patricia Perlow
  - Eugene's Police Auditor as expressed interest in speaking.
  - Glenwood Conference CenterThe list of potential topics/speakers from last month's meeting was also read.
- c. Public Relations: Jeff Thompson reported that he will be posting the information regarding the next meeting's topic – Gateway Mall Update on the website and has sent out press releases.
- d. Membership: Chris Kline received lists from 6 board members of people to approach about membership. The board then reviewed all the lists and discussed who would be contacting these individual. Chris also moved that new members that joined and paid, during this requirement time, receive membership through 1/31/2016 for their payment as an incentive to make the commitment. Also, individuals that hadn't renewed this year would also receive this incentive at this time. Len 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it was approved by the board. Michelle Bixler suggested that the membership list also have a "Date of Renewal" date listed.

5. Other Business

Newsletter: Len Goodwin passed out the first newsletter to board members and Mike Eyster agreed to write an article for the September newsletter.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30

## August 16

The August 20 meeting of the City Club featured Dan Egan, Theater Manager of the Richard E. Wildish Community Theater. Dan has not yet quite finished his first 60 days at the theater, but that is not keeping him from taking decisive and bold action.

Dan recognizes that in order for the theater to stay viable, it needs to generate enough revenue to cover the operating expenses and he is on an aggressive campaign to meet that goal. In addition, Dan is hopeful that he can start a modest capital campaign to address some specific issues related to 10 years of wear and tear, as well as to make some upgrades to the theater.

Dan is seeking out opportunity wherever it exists to improve the finances of the theater while increasing the presence of the arts in downtown Springfield and adding to the increasingly vibrant atmosphere of downtown. The day Dan visited with us, the theater was hosting a children's group. Dan has already increased number of events held at the theater during his first few days on the job and will more than double the number of events scheduled next summer.

Dan pointed out that the theater has excellent acoustics and provides an intimate venue in which to partake of theater, music, or other live presentations. Dan pointed out that the theater is also used for corporate functions and even weddings and family reunions.

If you would like to know more about the Wildish, you can click on the following : <http://www.wildishtheater.com>

## OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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