

Back in history long ago, which fortunately few of us are burdened to remember, Labor Day in every other even numbered year was the beginning of Presidential campaign season. The Democratic candidate would always start off with a speech in Detroit, before crowd of generally supportive auto workers. The Republican candidate would start somewhere in the Midwest, before an equally supportive audience of farmers and businessmen. Oh, for those ancient days!

This year, the public has been greatly abused for months, perhaps years, with tawdry rhetoric, uncivil and insulting claims and charges, to the point where many have reached that stage, where an arbitrator once told me, surveying a case where I represented an unsavory employer who fired an equally unsavory employee: "The hell with it!"

Sadly, I write today to urge the members of City Club to gird up their loins and step into the mire. Whether you support Mr. Trump or Secretary Clinton, Governor Brown or Doctor Pierce. Whether you support or oppose Ballot Measures 97 and 98, whether you favor or reject the idea of an increased fuel tax in Springfield, and on and on down the political lineup, I am imploring you to spend the next month or so holding your nose and learning about the candidates and the issues so that when ballots come out in October, you are prepared to exercise the most important duty a citizen has in this republic – the obligation to participate in the electoral process.

In a democracy, it is vital that the governed become a part of the decision making process. Keep in mind that as much as we all rail about the abuses of "the government" – as Walt Kelly said: "We have met the enemy, and he is us." WE are, as a community, the government we elect.

Actually, in a representative democracy such as the United States, the burden is even greater since we are not deciding most issues directly, but rather by selecting those who will make those decisions based on what the will of the people expresses, informed by the (hopefully) wisdom of those we select to represent us. Beginning with the September 15 meeting, City Club will host three forums directed at issues and candidates of direct relevance to the Springfield community. We urge you to come to each of these meetings, and to reach out to your friends and neighbors and ask them to join you. You are the people! Learn so that you can make your voices count!

Len Goodwin

MEETING CALENDAR

September 1, **Our Main Street Springfield: Main-McVay Transit Study**

a presentation with updated information on the Main-McVay Transit Study. The City of Springfield, Lane Transit District, and the Oregon Department of Transportation are developing, evaluating, and refining the most promising transportation options for the Main Street - McVay Highway Corridor as potential solutions to address growing concerns about safety, congestion, and quality of life. The Study's goals include improving the safety and security of the corridor, accommodating all transportation users, and encouraging economic revitalization and land use redevelopment.

September 15 – **Increase in local fuel tax**

The Springfield City Council has placed a measure on the November ballot to increase the local fuel tax from 3 cents per gallon, to 5 cents a gallon. City club has invited both proponents and opponents of the increase to discuss the measure.

PUBLIC CALENDAR

All items are tentative and subject to change

Springfield City Council

September 6 – 6:00 p.m. Work Session

Virginia - Daisy Bikeway Design

CDBG Allocation process

7:00 p.m. Regular Session

News Media Policy Amendment

September 12 – 6:30 Joint Work Session with BCC

– 2030 Plan/UGB Expansion

7:00 p.m. Joint Public Hearing with

BCC – 2030 Plan/UGB expansion

September 19 – 6:00 p.m. Work Session

Amendments for EWEB Intake

7:00 p.m. Regular session

Amendments for EWEB Intake

September 26 – 5:30 work Session

Main/McVay Transit Study (tentative)

Lane County Commissioners

September 6 – No meeting

September 13 – 9:00 a.m. Referendum and Initiative (tentative)

September 20 – 9:00 a.m.

September 27 – 9:00 a.m.

Lane Transit District (Continued on page 2)

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September 6 – 5:30 p.m. Budget Committee
September 21 – 5:30 p.m. Board of Directors

Willamalane Park and Recreation District
September 14 – 6:30 p.m.

School District 19
September 12 – 7:00 p.m.
September 26 – 4:00 p.m. (Work session)

Springfield City Club
Board of Directors Meeting July 5, 2016

Board Members Present: Terry Beyer, Steve Moe, Len Goodwin, Merlyn Hough, Dan Egan, Chris Kline, Joe Leahy, and Carolyn Miller

Board Members Absent: Mike Eyster, Jeff Thompson, and John Tamulonis

Others Present: Dacoda Hulse from The Washburne Café

1. 11:35 Meeting was called to order by Terry Beyer
2. Discussion of Willamalane contract added to the agenda
3. Len Goodwin moved to accept the minutes from the June 7th, 2016 board meeting, Chris Kline 2nd, all approved.
4. Board Reports
 - e. Financial: No report.
 - f. Membership: Chris Kline plans to renew the membership campaign working off of last year's list beginning in August. Terry Beyer brought up that the bylaws state that a board member can be replaced after missing 3 consecutive meetings without a reasonable excuse.
 - g. Programs: Merlyn Hough reminded everyone that this Thursday's (July 7th, 2016) program will be covering the Springfield-Eugene fire department merger and its effects. Aurora Jackson from LTD will present on July 21st. No programs will be scheduled for August unless something major occurs, such as City Club being able to secure DeFazio for August 18th but that program is more likely to occur in October. The September 1st program will be an update on Franklin Boulevard presented by Christy Kruger. The September 15th program will be presented by Emily at NEDCO, but may be re-scheduled for a later date and replaced with Sheri Moore and Sean Dunn and/or a discussion of ballot measures. October programs are planned to be dedicated to elections and ballot measures. Dan Egan and Merlyn Hough listed some program ideas that they came up with: local jobs and economy, a follow-up on the downtown refinement plan, the census and what we can gain from the data, getting a speaker from Albany High School to comment on their good high school graduation rate in a program with someone from the Springfield school district (Colt Gill), street repair backlog, lead testing. Len Goodwin says that about 18 people showed up at the last program, that it was well-presented and there was good audience engagement. Steve Moe would like to have more controversial topics and believes this would boost attendance and suggested the SUB and Comcast fiber optics network for downtown as a future topic; Joe Leahy thinks that John DeWenter from the SUB board would be willing to present. Several people mentioned that it could be a good idea to include more speakers from Eugene and other clubs. Len Goodwin wants to include the program schedule for a couple months out in the newsletter and this

requires more concrete and advance program scheduling; Joe Leahy mentions that doing this would likely boost program attendance; Dan Egan says that he and Merlyn plan to meet together more often so that this can be achieved. It was suggested that a survey be given out to collect information about what kinds of topics matter most to members and that this survey should be done annually.

- h. Public Relations: Len Goodwin plans to attend a statewide meeting of city clubs on July 26th. This month's newsletter is not yet out because he wants to include new officers and future program efforts. Rather than the usual type of newsletter article, Len suggests that future articles be more focused on the upcoming program topics. A need to be more present in the media was also discussed; Carolyn Miller will arrange for City Club to be mentioned in the Register Guard's community calendar and Joe Leahy suggested perhaps looking into getting in the Eugene Weekly. Chris Kline suggests getting the Chamber of Commerce to include something about City Club in their newsletter.
9. Newsletter article: Terry Beyer will be writing the August article; Len Goodwin will be writing the September article.
10. Election
 - k. How to get more participation: Terry Beyer mentioned that the bylaws indicate that the elections process should have started about 1.5 months earlier than it did and that adhering to that next year may result in greater participation. It was suggested that ballots be available on the tables at programs.
 - l. Committee Chairs: Chairs need to be checked-in with to ensure that they want to continue in their positions. Carolyn Miller will be joining Chris Kline as Membership co-chair.
13. Other Business
 - n. City Club card: Steve Moe will check-in with Jeff Thompson and get what he has so that Steve may continue with this project.
 - o. Storage of City Club materials: Kay Hyde-Patton had several City Club materials in her possession which she has given to Len Goodwin; Joe Leahy will store these materials at his office.
 - p. Extended Meeting: The bylaws state that there is to be an annual extended board meeting which has not happened for the last couple of years. It was decided that this will be used as a future planning session and that this year's meeting should take place in early August and include discussion of City Club's contract with Willamalane and the membership campaign.

Meeting adjourned at 12:40

City Club Board of Directors

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