

Growing up in Springfield in the 1970s, the only public art I remember is the iconic Oregon Statehood Memorial sculpture by Charles Forrester, called “The White Horse,” that greets travelers coming in from Eugene along Main Street. The pioneer on horseback seemed to keep guard at the entrance of the city and even as a young girl, I was keenly aware of the concept of public art as placemaking.

In 1986, the Springfield City Council established the Springfield Arts Commission and asked the commission to promote and inspire the creation and exhibition of public art in the community. The first Arts Commission project was Art Alley, a series of outdoor murals in downtown Springfield.

Since then there has been an explosion of beautiful, thought-provoking public art installations all over Springfield – everything from murals, to sculptures to mosaics to exhibits in a variety of venues, including the Springfield Public Library & City Hall. [An online brochure](#) showcases all the public art on exhibit around town and offers art lovers a self-guided tour.

In addition to the work of the Arts Commission, the City Manager’s Office Community Art Program led a five year public art plan that has already resulted in the Simpson’s Mural, the Ken Kesey Mural, the Oregon Women Veterans Sculpture and the largest public art piece in the state of Oregon, the Springfield Flame, among many other works.

In 2019, a new round of public art exhibits will be installed, beginning with the installations of decorative crosswalks in downtown Springfield, communicating public safety messages in an artful manner. More art initiatives will be implemented through 2023, establishing Springfield as a premiere public art destination.

Why does public art matter? According to Americans for the Arts, public art is an important way a community expresses its identity and provides meaning to visitors and residents alike. Public art becomes a part of the local landscape and “...humanizes the built environment.” Public art is accessible to all people, no matter your race, gender, age, economic circumstances or education level. Public art is a great equalizer.

*Therese Lang
Director*

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

SEPTEMBER 12 METROPOLITAN WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT COMMISSION — WHO?

Mention to residents the Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission (or MWMC), and you frequently get a blank stare. It’s the unknown agency that is critical to the livability of the Springfield-Eugene Metropolitan area, because it collects, treats, cleans and disposes of all of the wastewater generated by toilets, bathtubs, sinks and industrial processes throughout the local area. A generation-old example of regional cooperation, it operates in the background to protect citizens and the environment. Staff from the Commission will discuss the role it plays in community livability on September 12.

SEPTEMBER 19 — LANDLORD TENANT RELATIONS

Governor Brown has signed SB 608, which makes significant changes to landlord/tenant relations. Eviction of tenants without cause is restricted in many cases, and rent increases are limited by statute to seven percent above changes in the CPI. John van Landingham and Jim Straub will discuss the changes and how they may affect the rental market.

PUBLIC CALENDAR

All items are tentative and subject to change. For current information, click on the agency name which will redirect you to the appropriate web site.

[City of Springfield Council](#)

225 Fifth Street
Springfield, OR 97477
(541)726-3700

September 3, 2019

Work Session 6:00 p.m.

Abatement Warrants

Regular Session 7:00 p.m.

PH Metro Plan Amendment (Urban Transition, LLC)

Zoning Map Amendment (1st Reading)

PH Abatement Warrants (1st Reading)

September 9, 2019

Work Session 5:30 p.m.

Tech Fee reserve Discussion

Executive Session 6:30 p.m.

September 16, 2019

Work Session 6:00 p.m.

Planning Work Program

Regular Session 7:00 p.m.

Metro Plan Amendment, Zoning Map Amendment (Urban Transition, LLC) (2nd Reading)

Right of Way Vacation (5th and T)

September 23, 2019

Work Session 5:30 p.m.

September 30 2019 – NO MEETING

[Lane County Board of Commissioners](#)

125 Eighth Avenue
Eugene OR 97401
(541)682-4203

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September 3, 2019 – NO MEETING
September 10, 2019 – 9:00 a.m.
September 17, 2019 – NO MEETING
September 24, 2019 – 9:00 a.m.
Supplemental Budget
Debrief County Courthouse Bond Measure
(Work session) Homeless Winter Strategies
Goshen Wastewater Update

Lane Transit District

3500 E. 17th Avenue
Eugene, OR 97403
(541)687-5555

September 16, 2019 – Work Session 4:00 p.m.
September 18, 2019 – Board Meeting 5:30 p.m.

School District 19 Board of Directors

640 A Street
Springfield, OR 97477
(541) 726-3201

September 9, 2019 – Business Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Springfield Utility Board

250 A Street
Springfield OR 97477
(541)746-8451

September 11, 2019 – Board Meeting 6:00 p.m.

Willamalane Park and Recreation District

320 S. 32nd Street
Springfield, OR 97478
(541)736-4544

September 11, 2019 – Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.

Lane Regional Air Protection Authority

1010 Main Street
Springfield, OR 97477
(541)735-1056

September 12, 2019 – Board Meeting 12:15 p.m.



But if private donations are such a small proportion, where does the revenue come from? Sixty to sixty-five percent comes from their business activities – retail sales, sales of recycled material, rents from housing, and the like. Another ten to fifteen percent comes from contracted public services — services they provide to veterans, emergency services. Another 10 percent comes from local, state and federal grants – funds to create affordable housing, host veterans’ programs, and similar activities.

RECENT PROGRAMS

Sustaining the Non-profit – August 1



Many, if not most, non-profit organizations seem to struggle to keep funding balanced with their spending. They bounce from one fund raising effort to the next, always uncertain of how they will keep going over the long-term. One local exception to that “rule” at least in Lane County, is the

local St. Vincent DePaul. It seems to constantly take on new initiatives and has a very visible and active presence in the community. How does it do that? Terry McDonald, the Executive Director of the local chapter of the national organization, explained it to the Springfield City Club on August 1. The solution: do business, and then do more business, particularly in businesses that no one else wants to do.

The list of activities that St. Vinnie’s supports is extensive: they have recently renovated a disused church building to house homeless high school students. They house an average of one homeless veteran per day. They rent housing and make it available to veterans reentering civilian life. A current series of projects has seen the organization buy old and decrepit trailer parks, remove the unsafe and uninhabitable housing and replace it with newer units which can be rented at low rates to residents. Under legislation passed this session, they may be applying for grants to expand this effort into some trailer parks in Springfield.

The list of entrepreneurial activities that fund those efforts is equally extensive. Everyone is probably familiar with their group of retail stores. Less familiar efforts include: the largest recycler of mattresses in the world; recycling of Styrofoam; a glass foundry; a wood shop; recycling of banned refrigerant gases Their entrepreneurial activities generate far more revenue in support of their community efforts than do traditional

donations. In fact, charitable donations amount to less than four percent of their revenue.

It is that one startling statistic that explains why, even with the tax law changes of 2017, they have remained financially sound. McDonald acknowledged that the changes in tax law which made charitable giving no longer a tax advantaged activity for most people, have hurt revenue somewhat, “ the effect on St. Vinnie’s is minor compared to the devastating impact that the changes have had on organizations which rely on charitable giving as their main source of support.”

Representative Peter DeFazio – August 22

Representative Peter DeFazio covered a wide range of topics, both national and local, in his briefing to Springfield City Club on August 22.

He described the current Congress as an exercise in frustration. The House of Representatives is working with some efficiency, and passing legislation, only to have it completely stalled in the Senate, where Sen. McConnell, the Majority leader, is interested only in appointing extreme conservative judges, not doing the regular work of the Senate.

Proposed construction of an extensive border wall drew much of the Representative's ire. He observed that in the recent trial of Pablo Guzman, a leader of the Mexican cartels, it became clear that the rush of drugs into the country was NOT through illegal crossing at remote locations. The drug dealers admitted that almost all their traffic moves either through legal ports of entry or by boat. Only a small fraction of the truck traffic across the border is examined in detail, because there are simply not enough resources. The cartels don't worry about losing a shipment or two, since they move such massive amounts in false compartments in trailers and trucks. Perhaps to illustrate the point, recently a large shipment of cocaine was discovered in Washington state intermixed among boxes of bananas. Mr. DeFazio said the Coast Guard tells him they have intelligence on 80 percent of the waterborne traffic but can deal with only about 20 percent with the resources they have. He put it bluntly: "Spend billions to build a stupid wall," when sending that money to the Coast Guard would be much more effective.



On another hot domestic issue, Mr. DeFazio said the new proposed trade agreement with Mexico does nothing to eliminate the weaknesses that cause him to oppose NAFTA when it was enacted.

When asked about Oregon legislation that would allow duplexes and more in single family zoned areas, he said he was not sure it would help the problem. What is needed, he said, is federal participation since neglect by the federal government is leading to the polarization that prevents a solution.

He was also asked about recent reports that companies were using surveillance techniques to track residents who expressed concern about the Jordan Cove LNG pipeline project. He said this is legal because of some of the provisions of the Patriot Act, passed in the wake of the September 11, 2001 attacks. The Patriot Act, he said authorizes surveillance clearly beyond constitutional limits.

As Chair of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, one of his major concerns is funding for transportation. He noted one of his first experiences with the current administration was a meeting with the President where he seemed to reach agreement on a substantial infrastructure package, only to have him deny that, and reject all solutions, when the parties met again to discuss funding the program. He outlined his plan to use gas taxes to provide additional revenue. His concept would index fuel taxes based on fuel usage and the cost of construction. As fuel efficiency increases, and users spend less for fuel, the tax would increase to keep the final cost to the user at the same level. This, he said, could generate enough revenue to provide debt service on \$40 billion in bonding for each of 13 years and would serve to fund improvements and repairs until the nation moves to a vehicle miles travelled charge.

Minutes
Board of Directors
Springfield City Club

June 2, 2019 – LRAPA offices

Present:

Merlyn Hough	Kristin Denmark	Joe Leahy	Bob Fondren
Len Goodwin	Terry Beyer	Callie Barry Elliott	Mackenzie Karp
Therese Lang	Carolyn Miller	Nick Nelson	

Absent:

Guests:

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 a.m.

On a motion by Nick, seconded by Bob, the May minutes were unanimously approved as read.

Bob presented the Financial Report. He noted that it reflected that the iPad approved last month had been purchased. In the list of business members, it was noted that the Central Labor Council had paid but was not showing up as paid on the list. Kristin requested that School district 19 receive an invoice for their dues. Bob will take care of sending an invoice. After discussion, the Financial Report was approved unanimously on a motion by Len, seconded by Terry.

Joe reported for the Nominating Committee, which consisted of himself, Phil Farrington, Mike Eyster, Terry Beyer and Kay Hyde-Patton. They presented two alternative slates: 1) Kristin for President; no candidate for President-elect, Bob for Treasure, Len for Secretary, and Callie, Therese and Nick for two-year positions on the Board; and 2) the same, except Carolyn Miller for President-elect. Carolyn said she would be willing to accept nomination if it was understood she would not be making a final commitment to run for President next year. The Board reached a consensus that this was acceptable, and therefore recommended option 2 in a motion by Len, seconded by Kristin.

Mackenzie reviewed the proposed sponsor’s poster. The Board recommended that she add the tagline below the City Club logo. She will do that and get high quality logos for Bean Counter and the Springfield Chamber. The Board discussed adding the City of Springfield to the poster but noted that only two City staff members were City Club members, so declined to add it at this time.

Mackenzie reported she has accepted a position with the University of Oregon and will have to check to see if she will have time to continue on the Board.

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City Club Board of Directors

President	Kristin Denmark	kdenmark@thorp-purdy.com	(541) 747-3354
President-Elect	Carolyn Miller	carolyn.jean.miller@gmail.com	(541) 425-5228
Past President	Merlyn Hough	merlyn@lrapa.org	(541) 736-1056
Treasurer	Bob Fondren	bobf@subutil.com	(541) 744-3610
Secretary	Len Goodwin	localcitizenor@gmail.com	(541) 915-8956
Director	Terry Beyer	terrybeyer@comcast.net	(541) 746-5889
Director	Callie Barry Elliott	celliott@columbiabank.com	(541) 984-2270
Director	Therese Lang	therese.lang@ltd.org	(503) 913-9311
Director	Nick Nelson	nick@nicknelsonrealestate.com	(541) 852-9394
Director			
Director			

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Len reported that the iPad worked fine for accepting payments. He is still exploring if it will prove adequate to record audio of our meetings. He said he might not be able to attend the June 20 program. Kristin and Carolyn volunteered to help if necessary.

The Board reviewed upcoming programs. June 20 is confirmed for a public meeting of the SUB Board. There will be no program on July 4. Joe has secured Cedric Hayden to join Sen. Beyer and Representative Lively at the July 18 legislative recap.

Tentatively Terry McDonald will lead a discussion on August 1 on making a non-profit organization financially sustainable. John Van Landingham and Jim Straub will discuss new legislation regulating rents on September 19. Joe is talking to Mark Garter about a program on the state of local press for August 15. The Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission is interested in presenting an update. Len will check on their availability for September 12. We may set aside October for programs related to election issues, depending upon what is on the ballot.

Bob will provide an article highlighting the Light of Liberty celebration for the July newsletter.

The July Board meeting will be postponed to July 9, because of the holiday.

We received some complaints about cold food at the June 6 program. Kristin and Merlyn will meet with HGI to discuss this and other issues.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Len Goodwin,

Secretary,

Minutes

Board of Directors

Springfield City Club

July 9, 2019 – LRAPA offices

Present:

Kristin Denmark Carolyn Miller Merlyn Hough
Nick Nelson Terry Beyer

Absent: Len Goodwin, Bob Fondren, Callie Barry Elliott, Mackenzie Karp, Therese Lang.

Others present: Joe Leahy (Program Chair).

The meeting was called to order at 11:35 a.m. No quorum was present, so the meeting was for informational purposes. The minutes and financial reports were distributed, but approvals were postponed until a quorum was present.

Bob Fondren distributed the Financial Report beforehand with these notes: 'I am in employee interviews tomorrow. I hope to make the meeting but it's possible I may be held up. So just in case, I have included the financial report with this email. The only thing I would like to point out is on page 2 under "Dues and Fees". The \$400 consists of \$350 for the Springfield Chamber Membership and \$50 for our annual filing with the State. I have one to-do still. To check on the Labor Council payment. I will get that for next meeting.

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Kristin reported on the election results: Kristin Denmark for President; Carolyn Miller for President-Elect; Bob Fondren for Treasurer; Len Goodwin for Secretary; Merlyn Hough for Past-President; and Callie Barry Elliott, Therese Lang and Nick Nelson for two-year positions on the Board. Terry Beyer and Mackenzie Karp continue on the Board for the second-year of their two-year terms. Carolyn reminded the Board that she was willing to accept nomination/election as long as it was understood she would not be making a final commitment to run for President next year.

Mackenzie had distributed the proposed sponsors poster beforehand. The Board loved it. Joe will talk to Mackenzie about the final printing of the sponsor poster boards.

Mackenzie reported she has accepted a position with the University of Oregon and will have to check to see if she will have time to continue on the Board.

The Board reviewed upcoming programs. There will be no program on July 4. Joe has secured Rep. Cedric Hayden to join Sen. Beyer at the July 18 Legislative Recap. Terry reported that Reps. John Lively and Marty Wilde are not available that date, but she is still pursuing Rep. Nancy Nathanson. Kristin will welcome folks to the meeting and Terry will coordinate the speakers and timing.

Joe reported that Terry McDonald (St. Vincent DePaul) will lead a discussion on August 1 on making a non-profit organization financially sustainable.

Terry reported that Congressman DeFazio is available for August 22; Len has arranged with Hilton Garden Inn to move our meeting from August 18 to August 22 with extra space. Joe will contact the League of Women Voters about co-sponsoring the Congressional Recap program.

There will not be a meeting on September 5. The Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission is interested in presenting an update; Len will check on their availability for September 12 or later. Kristin will explore new Springfield Schools Superintendent Todd Hamilton for September 12 date or later.

Joe confirmed that John Van Landingham (Lane County Legal Aid) and Jim Straub (Acorn Properties) will discuss Changes in Landlord/Tenant Law on September 19.

We may set aside October for programs related to election issues, depending upon what is on the ballot. Joe is talking to Mark Garber about a program on the state of local press for October-December. Joe is also talking with Karl Marlantes, author of Deep River, about a presentation on the effect of constant war on soldiers for January or so.

Kristin will provide an article to Len for the August newsletter by the week of July 22.

Kristin and Merlyn will meet with Justin at Hilton Garden Inn about the 2020 meeting contract during July-August 2019.

Merlyn will chair the next Board meeting on August 6 while Kristin is on vacation.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned before 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Merlyn Hough,

Past-President (and acting Secretary)