

## **MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY**

**September 19, 2006**

The minutes of the proceedings of a regular meeting of the City of Coos Bay Urban Renewal Agency, held immediately following the City Council meeting held at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 500 Central Avenue, Coos Bay, County, Oregon.

### **Those Attending**

Those present were Acting Chair Jon Eck and Board Members Joe Benetti, Roger Gould, and Jeff McKeown. Staff present were Interim City Manager Joyce Jansen, City Attorney Nate McClintock, Acting Deputy Recorder Jackie Mickelson, Finance Director Janell Howard, Fire Chief Stan Gibson, Library Director Carol Ventgen, and Police Chief Eura Washburn

### **Consideration to Approve a Request for Funds for Library Remodeling Project**

Library Director Carol Ventgen explained the library had outgrown the space and the needs of the patrons. She stated the library use has increased by 68 percent, the circulation by 35 percent, and the collection by 25 percent. The library is being used differently now and relying more on technology. She explained the first step would be to reconfigure the space to be more user friendly and to utilize the space better. The cost was estimated to be \$99,700 with an additional cost of \$20,000 for shelving and furniture. The Library Board has pledged to contribute \$60,000 for the project, and they are asking the Urban Renewal Agency to match their contribution.

John Littlefield, Chair of the Library Board, stated there was a growing need for some changes in the library. Mr. Littlefield explained this improvement would benefit the library patrons as well as the employees. He stated that patrons are happy with the library and its staff, but they would like the library to offer more. Barbara Butler, science librarian, explained the needs are changing, and the library foundation board is ready to move forward. Joyce Day, Friends of the Library, stated she had come to the Board to ask for matching funds for the library remodeling project. She explained some of what the group does to contribute to the Coos Bay Library is share books and materials with numerous agencies and have book sales to donate the money to the library. Ms. Day explained there is a great need for more room.

Board Member McKeown commented the library is a great place, and he is glad the Friends of the Library are helping. Board Member Gould agrees this is the first step for an improvement and agrees the library needs it. Board Member Benetti agreed the library is crowded and he is in support of the project. Board Member Gould moved for the Agency to approve the \$60,000 for the funding for the capital project proposal. Board Member Benetti seconded the motion which passed with all Board Members present voting aye.

### **Public Comments**

No public comments.

**Adjourn**

There being no further business to come before the Agency, Acting Chair Eck adjourned the meeting.

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Jon Eck, Acting Chair

Attest:

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Jackie Mickelson, Acting Deputy Recorder