

MEETING CALENDAR

January 7, 2016

Legislative Update

Senator Lee Beyer, and Representative John Lively briefed City Club members on prospects for the 2016 Legislative Assembly session, which began on February 1. Both indicated that in the short session budget issues were likely to continue to be a major focus. Representative Lively indicated that a one of his priorities would be an effort to establish budgetary reserves. Senator Beyer pointed out that although the Oregon economy is expected to “bubble along” and produce about \$1 billion in additional revenue in the coming year, there is little reasons to see this as a windfall.

He noted that solutions to issues surrounding PERS would like consume about \$400 million of that additional revenue, and that dealing with the ramp down of federal support for funding the costs associated with the Affordable Care Act would consume another \$400 million. He also pointed out that the State is involved in litigation regarding services to special needs children, which is like to generate substantial costs.

Both legislators said that the short length of the session (no more than 35 days) made it difficult to tackle complex issues. They expected that the current debate about Oregon’s minimum wage, how to regulate the use of recreational marijuana, and what resources to dedicate to the 2021 world track and field championships would consume a great deal of energy and time.

They also agreed that the Legislature would attempt to deal with the minimum wage in the light of several different ballot initiatives on that topic, although they expressed concern that any action by the legislature would mean those initiatives would not move forward. In a similar vein, Sen. Beyer (Continued on page 2)

Clear View

On top of Mt. Pisgah, it is a beautiful day. One has a clear view of the river, hills, rows of residences and streets filled with cars and people. Every year I search for a clear view of what the new year will bring, what will be in our path as we go forward--in business, family, community. I also wonder how others search for their clear view—sitting on a park bench, walking on a path by a river or through the forest, enjoying a cup of tea.

As a board member of City Club, I appreciate the board and its passion to volunteer time in choosing topics and speakers with information to share. Twice a month throughout the year, City Club informs and educates participants on community topics and issues—education, transportation, social needs, health and recreation. The conversations assist in clarifying, focusing and re-aligning that view.

As a founding member, I see City Club as a time where community members analyze information. I especially enjoy the interaction, the member-to-member time creating questions for the speakers to address, and member-to-speaker as questions and answers are shared. All of it assists in the clear view of a better community.

PUBLIC CALENDAR

All items are tentative and subject to change

Springfield City Council

February 8, 2016

Work session – 5:30 p.m.

Development Advisory Committee Update

February 16, 2016 (note Tuesday meeting)

Work Session – 6:00 p.m.

Master Fees and Charges Update

Regular Session– 7:00 p.m.

Amend Stormwater SDC Project List

February 22, 2016

Work session – 5:30 p.m.

February 28, 2016 – No meeting

Lane County Commissioners

February 2, 2016 – 9:00 a.m.

Refer Lane County Extension Levy

February 9, 2016 – 9:00 a.m.

Public Hearing - Rural Comprehensive Plan

Amendment

February 16, 2016 – No Meeting
February 23, 2016 – No Meeting

Lane Transit District

February 17, 2016 – 5:30 p.m.

Willamalane Park and Recreation District

February 10, 2016 – Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.

School District 19

February 8, 2016 – Business meeting 7:00 p.m.

February 22, 2016 – Work Session 4:00 p.m.

said the Senate will attempt to craft a measure to offer an alternative to an initiative seeking to impose a 2.5 percent gross receipt tax on Oregon businesses earning more than \$25 million in the State. The Legislative alternative, if it moves forward, is likely to propose a substantially smaller tax rate.

Senator Beyer voiced his hope that he would be able to move a “cap and invest” proposal, along the lines of legislation adopted in Ohio, California and Canada, to continue movement forward toward dealing with climate change.

Representative Lively said he sees some hope for small initiatives to deal with active shooting

incidents. These might include funding a school safety hotline, and funding a database of school layouts to ease the burden on first responders by identifying locations within a facility.

January 21

State of the City

Mayor Christine Lundberg reviewed her State of the City address for Club members on January 21. In reviewing the accomplishments of 2015, she noted that the City now has more than 200 new housing and apartments units, at a wide range of prices, to give families more option and draw new residents to Springfield.

She announced that she has been appointed as a co-convenor of a new Oregon Solutions Project to generate innovative solutions to help residents of mobile home parks as redevelopment puts their homes under pressure.

The Mayor noted that major redevelopment projects are underway: the redevelopment of the Gateway mall into the Shoppes at Gateway, and the \$80 million redevelopment of McKenzie Willamette Medical Center, as well as a series of improvements at Springfield schools. She also pointed to the Decision by Swanson Lumber to rebuild their plant, destroyed by fire in 2104, on its existing site.

For 2016 she announced that Springfield will be the home of a new Veterans Memorial, a very special one dedicated to the women who have served our country in the military.

Transportation will be a major focus in 2016, with work continuing on the several projects to improve safety for those crossing Main Street, the second phase of improved lighting in downtown Springfield, and the beginning of reconstruction of Franklin Boulevard in Glenwood.

The Mayor also discussed her continued interest in attention to Springfield’ historical industrial roots, the timber industry, and described how she hopes to move forward in stimulating advanced manufactured wood products, like Cross Laminated Timber, which offer potential for make the renewable forest again a source of products for major construction.

Springfield City Club
Board of Directors Meeting December 1, 2015

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

Board Members Absent: Len Goodwin and Chris Kline

Others Present: Carolyn Miller and Dacoda Hulse from The Washburne Café.

1. 11:35 Meeting was called to order by Mike Eyster
2. Minutes from the November 3, 2015 meeting were reviewed. Steve Moe moved to accept, Kay-Hyde-Patton 2nd.
3. Because some board members were planning on leaving early, Mike Eyster wanted to first discuss officer transition. Michelle Bixler reminded everyone that this board would be serving through July 2016 and it was agreed to address officer transition at a later time.
4. Board Reports
 - e. Financial: John Tamulonis reported a \$950 boost in membership sales. While things are generally good, 22+ lunches need to be bought at each program.
 - f. Programs: Terry Beyer said that due to it being the same week as Thanksgiving, the last program was not well-attended. The turnout at the next program is expected to be better as it covers the pros and cons of the current minimum wage increase proposal. She reports that Len Goodwin has been unable to secure any congressional delegates as speakers for the December 17th program. John Tamulonis suggested Christy Krueger (sp?) as a potential backup and it was decided to go ahead and schedule her for December 17th, making adjustments to future programs if a congressional delegate can make it. Terry Beyer brought up the railway from Eugene to Portland, the free lunch program across from Wow Hall, and the Egan Warming Center as possible topics for future programs. John Tamulonis suggested Dan Hurley as a future speaker. Michelle Bixler suggested Emily, the new executive director of Nedco, as another future speaker. Jeff Thompson mentioned that Tim Dewey always draws a big crowd and should be booked soon because of his busy schedule. Jeff Thompson also suggested Courtney and Jeff's CO presentation. Carolyn Miller suggested free community college as a future topic. Rob from the library is interested in doing a program in February.
 - g. Public Relations: Jeff Thompson is going to work on getting together a card with information about City Club that can be given to people who are interested in becoming a member. The Springfield Times was not able to make it to the last program but should be at the next one. Emails have been sent to The Register-Guard informing them of City Club programs.
 - h. Membership: No report.
9. Other Business
 - j. Newsletter: John Tamulonis will write the article for the January newsletter. Kay Hyde-Patton will write the article for the February newsletter.
 - k. KLCC Broadcast: Michelle Bixler says that there isn't any regular programming space available for City Club, but that occasional broadcasts are possible and it could be a good idea to coordinate with other area City Clubs. Special equipment and adequate space and sound are needed for this to happen. There is a professional who can do this for free; Michelle Bixler will give his contact information to John Tamulonis.
 - l. Website: Len Goodwin edited the site and it is agreed that it still looks clunky. There is some doubt as to its security.

Meeting adjourned at 12:05