

Minutes

October 8, 2024

JWN General Meeting

"This meeting is intended to be a place for the respectful and civil exchange of ideas and information. We ask all in attendance to honor this ethic by keeping questions and comments civil, concise and without commentary of a personal nature. In practice, this means addressing the topic, not the presenter or the organization, and being courteous to our guests."

Agenda (6:30-8:30)

6:35-6:45 Introductions, Announcements, Comments, New Business

- **Charnel Mulligan Park cleanup this Saturday 10am-12pm.**
- **Disaster preparedness Thursday oct 14th at 12pm, at Abilities Diner.**

6:45-7:00: Charter Amendment Vote:

- Text: "Jefferson Westside Neighbors is committed to fostering an equitable and welcoming neighborhood in which all may freely live, participate, and thrive."
- Instructions: Members are issued cards, hold up card until instructed to lower them.
- 10 members and 2/3 majority to amend the charter **15/18 in favor, the motion passes.**

6:40-7:30: Corey Buller, Manager Lane Events Center

- **The historic White Oak was killed during the ice storm, last year. Looking at replanting white oaks with friends of trees. Vandalism is a concern.**
- **Restarting some of the 20-year master plan. The new focus will be more community orientated. In the design and concept plan. They are bringing in a 3rd party surveying company for engaging the community. Specifically, with the JWN, looking for a neighborhood representative to be on the steering committee.**
- **Where is the additional Transit lodging tax revenue going to go? Its currently dedicated to the improvement of the fairgrounds. 3-5mill for each year is the expected budget.**
- **There have been lots of county commissioners over the years, and lots of different agendas. Lately the fairgrounds have been facilitating emergency resources, and this has gotten buy-in from city leaders.**

- Is there talk of moving the fairgrounds? Cory expects every possibility to be discussed. The idea is to take an open question to the stake holders, and see what floats to the top.
- Shifting to discussion on the two car events during this summer: August show and June show. The producer of the June show accused the events center of being racist because they were allowing a different show in August. The Show in June was not what was promised by that producer. Cory was there at the August Show walking the neighborhood taking sound measurements. The fairgrounds is looking for specific feedback so that they can establish parameters for any future show of this nature.
 - Q: “Burnouts” are environmental disasters, and it encourages additional behavior of that nature. Will the lane events center consider very carefully facilitating polluting, or climate unfriendly events? You should follow up with the commissioner if you want to change policy. The rules with sound are not very good, and not clear.
 - Q: What about air quality monitoring? None, The August event largely dissipated, by the time it left the fairgrounds. And there’s not good policy to enforce environmental, sound, etc... with transitory events.
- Shred fest will not be coming back (the June event.)
- There is a new chiller for the ice skating rink.

7:30-8:00: Jameson Auten, CEO of Lane Transit District

- LTD is making a comeback from COVID, Ridership is down still from COVID, though up 6% last year and 20% the year before. LTD has 110 Big Busses, 30 are fully electric. R99 Diesel fuel the others. 340 Employees. LTD had to reduce services because they didn’t have enough drivers, but they are hiring.
- There was board and political turmoil.
- After extensive assessment, its been deemed that it’s better to improve services along river road, rather that increasing, or EMX.
- LTD doesn’t have a body to be accountable to other than the ridership.

- LTD is really trying to revamp its images and its transparency. There is an inaugural event Oct 15th for community transparency and contact. And is focusing on mobility over just bussing. And are focusing out outcome that mater to lane county. Health, work, education, housing. LTD is asking how they can positively impact these buckets.
 - C: Was told that my bike did not fit on the rack by security personal and asked to deboard. That Drivers seem not to be courteous to cyclists. This is a known issue and its being addressed.
 - Q: Where to give feedback? Any customer service member and there's a phone number.
 - Q: How often are drivers hired, are you hiring? We're Constantly hiring, yes.
 - Q: Are there plans to revitalize route 78? As staffing improves we're restoring services to an updated need, and routes or services may shift.
 - Q: how do you deal with fluctuations in grant funding? Most of federal money is for capital. You can only use a small amount for operations. What LTD tracks is in payroll tax. The previous CFO did a good job and LTD is in a good place.

8:00-8:30: Review of November 2024 Ballot initiatives

- STATE Measures:
 - 115 – Amend The OR Constitution. Would authorize impeachment of state wide elected officials, by the legislature. State legislators are exempt from this, just the Governor, Attorney general, treasure, labor secretary, secretary of state.
 - 116 – Establish an independent public service commission. Removing authority from the legislature to set their own salary. The legislature appoints the commission, there no oversite or appeal.
 - 117 – Ranked Choice Voting.
 - 118 – Raise corporate minimum tax. And create a rebate of \$1600 for all individuals in the state. Affecting only businesses with gorse sales of 25million or more.
 - 119 – Intended to allow cannabis market workers to unionize.
- LANE COUNTY:
 - 20-359. Repels a section of code that is irrelevant.

- **20-360. Removes Alton baker park text. That park was given to the city.**
- **20-361. Removes outdated languages.**
- **20-362. Establish a citizens panel for redistricting commission for the 2026 General Election. 15 members, selected by Lott from a pool.**

8:35: Adjourn

19 attendees