

STAFFORD HAMLET
COMMUNITY MEETING

Minutes

December 13, 2022

Chair Bill Markt called the December 13th Community meeting of the Stafford Hamlet to order at approximately 7:02 pm on Zoom.

Attendance:

- ❖ Board Members Present: Richard Fiala, Katy Krider, Bill Long, Patty Mamula, Bill Markt, Cathy Meyers, Andy Munson, Len Schaber, Kelsey Vu
- ❖ Excused: Tate Morgan
- ❖ Absent:
- ❖ Staff Present:

Bill Markt welcomed attendees to the meeting and reminded everyone of the Board elections that started on December 13.

Update on Luscher Farm Master Plan - Richard Herman (Friends of Luscher Farm):

Richard Herman began by saying the goal of the Friends is to build community awareness of Luscher Farm and its benefits. The Friends raise money for projects like the greenhouse for the kids garden and for seedlings for garden plots. The Board of the Friends of Luscher Farm is changing and new Board members are needed.

Richard Herman said there are several areas of focus for the Friends of Luscher Farm. They want to expand agriculture, the community supported agriculture, and the community garden. They are working on interpretive and directional signage. They are also seeking to expand partner relationships, such as with the century farms, Lake Grove Garden Club, Hunger Fighters, and the Friends of Rogerson Clematis Garden. They are working to develop a consistent historical narrative. They are developing an educational program on history, agriculture, and natural resources. They are also seeking to protect and expand natural habitat, and one example is the work on the oak savannah.

Richard Fiala said that one of his pet peeves is people mispronouncing Luscher Farm, and he suggested putting the correct pronunciation on the sign. Len Schaber agreed and suggested a way to easily remember it.

Patty Mamula said the community garden plots in West Linn are less expensive, and asked why do the Lake Oswego plots cost more? Richard Herman said he did not know, and that the prices are determined by the City of Lake Oswego. Patty asked what do people get with the plots, and do they get tools or storage? Richard said that Angie would have the answer, and that there are some tools on site.

Patty Mamula said that when she talked to Laura Masterson, Laura had said she wanted to plant fruit trees but did not because she could not get a long term lease. Richard Herman said the leases are a City contract.

Patty Mamula asked if the Friends group plants any trees? Richard said yes, and that the friends groups are mostly work parties. He said the City is who determines what may be planted.

Randy Yamada asked if the Friends are involved in other properties that are beyond the boundaries of the original Luscher Farm? Richard said yes, they are involved in pollinator plants and oak tree planting.

Bill Markt said that he heard the community plots might be expanded toward the Lange property. Richard said that is a goal, and part of the master plan. Bill asked if Parks and Recreation has the final say, and Richard said yes.

Rick Cook asked if people have to live within the boundaries of the City of Lake Oswego to be involved? Richard Herman said people do not need to live within the City to be part of the Friends of Luscher Farm. Rick asked if they had any involvement in the athletic field expansion or other plans. Richard Herman said the Friends group did not, though he personally served on the Raseekh Task Force. Rick Cook asked if any of the parks bond money goes toward Luscher Fam. Richard said there is allocation for the Luscher Farm area, and that he had testified to Parks and Recreation. Richard said that less money is available due to cost overruns with construction at the recreation center.

Patty Mamula asked how can the Hamlet partner with the Friends of Luscher Farm? Are there any specific or general suggestions? Richard said he would like to know more about the Hamlet. He would like to get more farmers involved, have classes (which would have support from Lake Oswego), build an educational program about farming, and a long term goal of an educational center at the Farm.

Bill Markt suggested partnering with the County's Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD). Richard Fiala added that the SWCD has grant writers. Richard Fiala said he would like to help if they need more information about agriculture.

Rick Cook asked if they are working with the Grande Ronde? Richard Herman said that is a long term goal.

Hamlet Board Elections:

Bill Markt said that the elections are happening now through December 20th. He said the information about candidates is on the website.

Trees Update - Andy Munson:

Andy said there are still some trees at 4th Quarter Farm. He said there are 30-40 trees left.

Neighborhood Captains Update:

Bill Markt said that more neighborhood captains are needed.

Patty Mamula asked if all the voting for Board elections is online. Bill Markt said yes, though people can contact the County for a paper ballot. Patty asked if any reminder has gone out to the general public? Kelsey Vu and Katy Krider said it is on social media and an email with a link will go out. Patty suggested mailing notices.

Adjournment: Chair Bill Markt adjourned the meeting at 7:37 pm.