

Healthy Klamath

May 25, 2016, minutes

Attendance

Donna Rhoades, CHA; Stephanie Van Dyke, Sky Lakes; John Bellon, City Parks; Paul Stewart, Sky Lakes; Amy Boivin, KBBH; Renea Wood, YMCA; Lauren Jespersen, Sky Lakes; Lori Winsinger, DHS; Jessie Dubose, Blue Zones Project; Jennifer Little, Sky Lakes; Valeree Lane, Public Health

Meeting schedule

Meetings are moving to a quarterly basis. **The next meetings in 2016 are August 24 and November 16.**

Urban Trails Master Plan

The county has approved the plan, and it moves to Klamath Falls City Council 6 p.m. Monday, June 7. Supporters are urged to attend the meeting; proactive letters to council members would also be appreciated. There is no financial commitment necessary in adopting the plan. The plan is a part of Blue Zones Project certification, and making the community more accessible to a variety of groups – from school children to those who bicycle for their commute to our senior citizens looking to walk from home to businesses.

Ongoing Healthy Klamath work

Lauren Jespersen provided an update on several projects.

Funding was reinstated for the geothermal fault trail above Sky Lakes Medical Center and Oregon Institute of Technology. The funding was withdrawn for a period, because the state did not submit the necessary paperwork in a timely manner. Ground was broken on the lower section of the trail and the goal is to have it done by the end of summer. Mark Wendt is the contractor, and the design is both inviting and accessible.

The sobering facility associated with the Klamath Works social services campus is under discussion with stakeholders. Protocols for operation will be established after all stakeholder positions are understood. There is enough funding to start the building, and groundbreaking may occur this summer.

Quotes for the Ella Redkey Splash Pool came in higher than anticipated. The project is being shelved for the moment to investigate possible partnerships and other funding streams.

Recreation District

Key stakeholders met to discuss the possibility of putting the district on the November ballot. The new partner at the table was Discover Klamath. A key component of the district would be providing a staff person to coordinate opportunities throughout the community. In projecting the costs associated with a full-time equivalent position, the coordinator would cost \$100,000. There is possibility in sharing the FTE with Discover Klamath, which already receives some tax funding (a portion of the 8% hotel tax is provided to Discover Klamath). Having a shared staff person would facilitate better information about recreation to those looking at Klamath for vacation, tour or living options.

Living Well/Freedom from Smoking update

A grant was recently awarded to fund a coordinator to facilitate a closed-loop referral system for individuals who are encouraged to participate in health education and self-management opportunities such as Living Well, Stanford University-created curricula for those living with chronic disease, and Freedom from Smoking cessation classes. Currently, there is no comprehensive mechanism to ensure that individuals referred by primary health providers are helped to enroll in appropriate classes. The grant provides a coordinator, housed by Sky Lakes, to organize the cohorts of referred patients, schedule trainings and maintain the flows of communication and subsequent data. This grant award is a reflection of the efforts of the Living Well Coalition with representation from Public Health, Sky Lakes, Senior Center, Area Agency on Aging, OSU Extension, Klamath Tribal Health & Family Services, Cascade Health Alliance, Aging and People with Disabilities, and Accumentra Health.

Blue Zones Project updates

There are a number of activities associated with Blue Zones Project going on. Several walking school buses were recently held. Under certification consideration are 19 worksites, 10 restaurants, two grocery stores, and 11 schools.

Our first Blue Zones Project checkout lines were implemented at Sherm's Thunderbird. Running Y is becoming a certified organization, and its restaurant, Ruddy Duck, is the first local certified restaurant.

The recent faith-based organization forum was attended by 66 people from 15 faith-based organizations. Walking and rolling audits were held in a number of neighborhoods, and the County Commissioners appointed an 11-citizen food policy council.

Upcoming dates to know include the Running Y Ribbon Cutting on Saturday, May 28, Graduation Sensation on Thursday, June 2, Celebrate the Blues on Thursday, June 16, and a Purpose Workshop June 30.

Other updates

Two local grants were awarded in the DHS TANF reimbursement process. One went to Klamath Works, while \$225,000 was reinvested into the local DHS self-sufficiency program.

The Park and Play program kicks off on June 20. It is the local free lunch program for all children, from birth to age 18, coupled with fun, healthy activities. A special kickoff, celebrating a Walmart Foundation investment here, will be held noon Tuesday, June 28, at Kiwanis Mills Park. Everyone is invited to the barbecue; this is an opportunity to showcase our community to the Walmart representatives. Anyone interested in having materials at their offices regarding the Park and Play program should contact Renea Wood at YMCA.