



Meeting Agenda

Thursday, October 22, 2020
City Hall, 980 Applegate St., Philomath
5:00 PM

Committee Chair:	Dale Collins
Committee Secretary:	Izzie Elliott
Committee Members:	Lindy Young, Spencer Irwin; Caleb Unema, Sandy Heath, Carol Leach
City Staff:	Chris Workman

1. ROLL CALL

2. BUSINESS

3.1 Skirvin Park display boards

3. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting Access Information

This meeting is being held electronically via Zoom. Prior to the meeting, participants will be provided with the Zoom meeting link. Citizens may watch the live feed of the meeting on the City's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/cityofphilomath> . Contact City Hall to make viewing arrangements if you do not have access to the internet.

Summary of Horse Plaza Display Frameworks and Display Panels.

The Horse Plaza project was started to recognize and thank Paul & Lola Skirvin for their donating 20 acres to the City of Philomath, now called Skirvin Park. The project was also intended to be a thank you to all past, present and future volunteers who have made Philomath so special.

The Horse Plaza Plan, prepared by Shonnard's Nursery and approved by the City and the Frolic & Rodeo Association, called for four historical display areas. Bud Thomas, who created the horse, designed and made the four frameworks. Each framework will have two 4'x 8' display panels back-to-back. It is important for you to know the order for each display panel and some background about each. Each panel had numerous volunteers doing research and gathering extensive information as needed.

Panel #1: Exceptional Land from Philomath to the Oregon Coast.

It was decided to make the overall theme as a celebration of Philomath, Marys Peak, the coast range and the central coast. Robert J. Lillie, recently published a book, "Oregon's Island in the sky" about the formation of the coast range and Marys Peak. Robert Lillie is a retired OSU professor with impressive credentials. He was very appreciative when asked to work on this project. He donated his time and beautiful graphics for the first panel. The two beautiful paintings of Marys Peak are by two local artists, Jan Roberts Dominquez and Donna Jepsen-Minyard, who donated the use of their paintings.

Panel #2: Marys Peak *Queen of the Coast Range*.

This panel is primarily intended to show Philomath as a Gateway city to Marys Peak, Marys Peak to the Pacific Scenic Byway and Gateway to the magnificent Central Coast. Judy Juntunen, a committee member, wrote the book, "World of the Kalapuya," and provided the brief summary of the Kalapuya history at the top of the panel.

The state animal and the state tree are showcased because Philomath and Marys Peak are at the heart of the best Douglas-fir growing area in the world and the heart of the best beaver habitat in Oregon, past or present. There also happen to be two local wildlife photographers who made their beaver photos available to us.

Panel #3: Philomath AS a Timber Town 1880s to 2020.

Panel #4: Philomath IS a Timber Town.

These two panels generated a lot of interest and we had far more photos than we could use. Panel #3 has most of the older pictures on it and Panel #4 has most of the newer photos. Because we wanted to use the best of the best, there is some overlap of older and newer photos on each panel as we didn't want to separate families who have been in the timber industry for 2, 3 or 4 generations.

Philomath is changing but it is still a significant Timber Town with a large number of timber businesses headquartered here such as: Starker Forests, Thompson Timber, the TSY Peak Log Sort Yard, the Fiber Marketing Chipping operation, the Georgia Pacific Sawmill and Planer complex, Miller Timber Services Company, B&G Logging Company and Truck Shop, Timber Supply Company, and many of the contract loggers and contract truckers living here.

Panel #5: Marys River Watershed Mills.

We used this heading because our committee wanted to use the great picture of the Hull-Oakes Mill and huge timber that was shipped by rail to Memphis, Tennessee, and became the World's Largest and Longest Love Seat. The big tree fell during the Columbus Day storm in 1962. The Mill is still going strong. The Committee also wanted to include this Mill because Ralph Hull has been very generous to Benton County and the Good Samaritan Hospital. Hull-Oakes contributed the huge 85-foot-long picnic table tops located in Avery Park, Benton County Fairgrounds and Philomath Rodeo grounds in Skirvin Park.

(Note: Hull-Oakes is located in the Muddy Creek watershed which flows into the Marys River watershed.)

Panel #6. Philomath as a College Town and a Volunteer Town. This panel will be finished during the winter or next spring.

Panel #7. Philomath Round-Up 1915-1916; Philomath Frolic 1953 -1983.

Panel #8. Philomath Frolic and Rodeo 1983 - 2019.

These panels are about the 100+ year history of Philomath as a Rodeo Town.

Carol Stueve chaired this committee to do the past history and the Frolic and Rodeo panels. When this committee was established, we did mention to Darrell Hinchberger and Chris Workman that if they knew anyone with the current Frolic & Rodeo Association who might want to work on this committee to contact Carol.

We have many to thank in getting to this point of our Three-Year Work Plan but I want to give special thanks to Mary Gallagher of Benton County Historical Museum and Gary Blanchard at Starker Forest. Some of you may know that Gary was the first Forester hired by Starker Forest and in recent years has been collecting history from many in the timber industry and taking pictures of many of their contract loggers and truckers. You may have noticed Starker Forest credits on many of the photos on Panels 2, 3, 4 and 5. Gary has been a big part of this project.

Most of the people working on these panels have been part of this community for many, many years and are looking forward to see the panels installed in the new frameworks.

After reviewing this summary of the body of work that has gone into these display panels, we hope you will be as excited as we are. If anyone on your Advisory Board has any questions, please contact me at any time.

Thank you.

Marlyn D. Weaver, Spokesperson for
Friends of Skirvin Park.
541-752-9926

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October 13, 2020