

# Minutes of the Veneta City Council

## April 11, 2011

Present: Mayor Sharon Hobart-Hardin, Brittany Boothe, Thomas Cotter, Marion Esty, and Sandra Larson

Others: Ric Ingham, City Administrator; Shauna Hartz, Finance Director; Brian Issa, Community Services Director; Kyle Schauer, Public Works Superintendent; Zac Moody, Associate Planner; Darci Henneman, Assistant City Recorder; Joan Mariner, Kathy McClemons, Linda Garcia, Gini Hornbecker, Mary Joe Wade, Jack Gray, Lois Riha, Olivia Johnson, Patty Little, Terry Ney, and Joan Mariner, Fern Ridge Review

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Mayor Hobart-Hardin called the Veneta City Council to order at 7:00 p.m.

### 1. PUBLIC COMMENT

#### **Joan Mariner, 25712 Cochran Ct., Veneta, OR**

Ms. Mariner spoke about the Fern Ridge School District (FRSD) two year bond levy which will be on the May 17, 2011 special election. Good schools mean high property values and better educated kids. She encouraged everyone to vote yes on Ballot Measure 20-181.

### 2. PUBLIC HEARING – Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for the Fern Ridge Service Center

1. Mayor Hobart-Hardin opened the Public Hearing at 7:03

2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest or Ex-Parte Contacts: None

3. Staff Report

The City of Veneta has been invited to apply for a 1.4 million dollar 2011 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) from the Oregon Business Development Department. CDBG funds come from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. The grants can be used for public facilities and housing improvements primarily for persons with low and moderate incomes.

The 2011 Method of Distribution for CDBG applications requires the City to hold a minimum of two public hearings at different stages of the project for the purpose of obtaining citizen's views and responding to proposals and questions. Both hearings combined must cover community development and housing needs, development of proposed activities and review of program performance. Tonight's public hearing will be focused on the development needs of the community and the project proposed for grant funding.

The Fern Ridge Service Center (FRSC) is an idea that has been generated by the public. Nearly \$400,000 has been raised with fundraising, donations and private grants.

Zac read the public hearing language that was published in the Register Guard on April 1<sup>st</sup> a copy of which is attached to these minutes and incorporated herein. The FRSC will benefit approximately 11,320 people of whom 100% will be low or moderate income. He then read a written comment submitted by Eilidh Lowery, Pastor of Valley United Methodist Church. All written comments were positive and confirmed that the FRSC comes highly recommended by the community.

4. Proponents:

#### **Kathy McClemons, 25647 Jeans Rd., Veneta, OR (Attached)**

Ms. McClemons has been a participant and volunteer at the senior center since 2004. She said currently the center is overcrowded. Seniors come for many reasons other than lunch or meals on wheels. The center also provides an "out" for seniors to visit with one another.

**Linda Garcia, 89333 Fields Rd., Elmira, OR (Attached)**

Ms. Garcia has volunteered at the Love Project Food Pantry since June of 2003. She is currently the assistant manager and she has seen the need for food increase greatly. In the past a heavy day of usage meant 20 boxes now they average 40 to 45 food boxes in three hours and as many as 60 families come in needing food baskets. Fortunately their food intake has increased also: the Oregon Food Bank, USDA, Food for Lane County, and local and individual organizations have come together to meet the increased food need. She provided a list of local donators. She said the building is very crowded and a walk in cooler or freezer, and more parking are just a few things that are needed to serve the 600 plus people on a weekly basis.

**Gini Hornbecker, 24544 Lakehills Dr., Veneta, OR and 88267 Ellmaker Rd., Veneta, OR**

Ms. Hornbecker owns property at 88682 Ellmaker where her father-in-law lived (on his own) for many years which he would not have been able to do without the Food Pantry and meals on wheels. He would have appreciated a facility like the one proposed. The Food Pantry and Garcia Center are overcrowded and she sees the need with so many baby boomers out there, many of whom are dealing with elderly parents would like to provide a safe environment for them.

**Mary Jo Wade, Winter Creek Farms, 89762 Poodle Creek Rd., Noti, OR**

Ms. Wade supports the FRSC as a younger baby boomer. She sees the need for the Center and is a past Food for Lane County Board member. Her business Winter Green Farms donates food to Food for Lane County and the Food Pantry.

**Jack Gray, Winter Green Farms, 89762 Poodle Creek Rd., Noti, OR**

Mr. Ray said as an area business owner he sees the FRSC as a valuable community project. He would like to see the building be as "green" as possible. He said distribution of food is one of the primary reasons it's difficult to feed those in need.

**Lois Riha, 88160 Lindsay Ln., Veneta, OR (Attached)**

Ms. Riha is a volunteer driver at the senior center. She takes seniors to their medical appointments. Many seniors tell her they wouldn't go to the doctor or dentist if they didn't have someone to drive them. The center is a great place for seniors to have lunch and visit. She sees a positive change in personalities after a few visits. They're more open and seem to be happier. Kim Kaufman's (Senior Connections Coordinator) office is so small and crowded that disabled seniors cannot be easily accommodated in his office and they have no privacy when discussing their situations.

**Joan Mariner, 25712 Cochran Ct., Veneta, OR (Attached)**

Ms. Mariner said the Fern Ridge Community Action Network (CAN) supports the City of Veneta's application for a Community Development Block Grant to construct the Service Center in Veneta. The current facility has insufficient space and expansions are impossible. Presently many seniors must often travel out of the Veneta areas for physical activities. She suggested the City work with Arlie & Company to open a City annex building at the West Lane Shopping Center to house Lane County Sheriff's office, the R.A.R.E. Interns, and many Mid-Lane Community Partnership activities that can't be housed in the Service Center because they're restricted to serving those 60 or older.

**Olivia Johnson, 25210 Tyro Ave., Veneta, OR (Attached)**

Ms. Johnson is the principal at Veneta elementary and supports the Food Pantry and Service Center. She said good nutrition improves learning potential and well being in children and many studies reflect a significant link between nutritional status and cognitive test scores or school performance. Regardless of family income, school quality or teaching ability, malnutrition impairs the ability to concentrate and can affect aptitude, attendance and attentiveness. Good nutrition lays the foundation for a healthy adulthood. She reviewed the side effects that malnutrition can have on children before they start school. At Veneta Elementary 57% of students qualify for free or reduced lunch meaning they live below the poverty level. For many of these kids school breakfast

and lunch are the only healthy meal they are guaranteed a day. Some students admit they dread the weekend or vacation because they may not eat regularly while school is out. At Elmira Elementary 61% of students qualify for free or reduced lunch. The Food Pantry provides a lifeline for these kids and their families and goes beyond the school breakfast and lunch. It provides food that children in our community need in order to grow up to be healthy, happy and productive adults.

**Patty Little, 21877 Allison Rd., Noti, OR (Attached)**

Ms. Little supports the effort to build the new Service Center to serve many local residents. She thanked the school district for leasing the current facility which allowed Mid-Lane Community Partners to operate. However the facility is no longer large enough to meet the needs of seniors and low income area residents as their numbers have increased and are projected to continue to grow. She supported the City of Veneta in seeking funding to build the FRSC which will serve exiting and future needs of area residents. The effort to raise local matching funds for the project is to be commended. She is the Program Manager for the Senior Connection program, one of the programs which will be housed in the FRSC.

**Terry Ney, Chief, Lane County Fire District No. 1, (LCFD No. 1) 25869 Vera Ln., Veneta, OR**

Mr. Ney said 80 to 90% of the calls that come in to LCFD No. 1 are from senior citizens who simply feel they have no place to turn and 911 is their only option. These individuals would be served by an expanded senior center. He acknowledged the building is crowded and does not best serve the community; unloading trucks on Territorial Highway is not a good thing either. The LCFD No. 1 is in support of the new Service Center.

Copies of written comments from the following are attached to these minutes and incorporated herewith.

**Rod Smith, Assistant Fire Chief, Lane County Fire District No. 1, 88050 Territorial Hwy., Veneta, OR**

**Joan Mariner, Chair Fern Ridge Community Action Network (CAN), 25712 Cochran Ct., Veneta, OR**

**Joan Carter, 88241 Thomas Ln., Veneta, OR**

**Shirley Overed, 25472 Arnold Ln, Elmira, OR**

**Eilidh Lowery, Pastor, Valley United Methodist Church, 25133 E. Broadway, Veneta, OR**

**Jean Melhorn, 25127 Legacy Ct., Veneta, OR**

**Ida May Fields, 25423 Arnold Ln., Elmira, OR**

**Nancy Haury, 25797 Fleck Rd., Veneta, OR**

**Ron Norton, 21888 Vaughn Rd., Veneta, OR**

**Geraldine Adank, 97460 Territorial Rd., Space 108, Veneta, OR**

**James Kaufman, 88072 Llama Ln., Veneta, OR**

**Ramona Archer, 25415 Moyer Ln., Elmira, OR**

**Dorothy Casterlin, 25596 Lawrence Rd., Junction City, OR**

**Wanda Peterson,**

**Gloria Meier, 25115 E Broadway, Apt. 4, Veneta, OR**

**Lucille Heitz, 26699 Pickens Rd., Eugene, OR**

**Vali Webster, 87935 Huston Rd., Veneta, OR**

**Marciee Bronson, PO Box 664**

**Judith Andrews, 24530 Vaughn Rd., Veneta, OR**

**Leonard Rhodes, 22618 Vaughn Rd., Veneta, OR**

5. Opponents: None
6. Questions from the Veneta City Council  
The Council thanked all the speakers for coming to tonight's public hearing and agreed the need for a new Service Center is very high.
7. Mayor Hobart-Hardin closed the Public Hearing at 7:37 p.m.

8. **Deliberation and Decision**  
After a brief discussion it was the consensus of the Council to move forward with the CDBG grant application.

**MOTION:** Thomas Cotter made a motion to recommend staff complete the CDBG application for submittal to the Oregon Business Development Department by the June 30, 2011 deadline. Marion Esty seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 5-0.

3. **CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Thomas Cotter made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Marion Esty seconded the motion.

**Vote:** Marion Esty, aye; Thomas Cotter, aye; Mayor Hobart-Hardin, aye; and Sandra Larson, aye; Brittany Boothe, aye.

The consent agenda as approved included Minutes for March 28, 2011, Accounts Payable through April 5, 2011, the Public Works Activity Report for March 2011, and the Annual Liquor License Renewals.

4. **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

a. **FROM MAYOR/COUNCILORS**

(1) **Appointment of Municipal Court Judge (A)**

Mayor Hobart-Hardin appointed Alan Leiman as the new Veneta Municipal Court Judge. Mr. Leiman is a Eugene attorney and City of Eugene Municipal Court Judge.

In response to a question from Thomas Cotter, Mayor Hobart-Hardin said appointing the new Municipal Judge was a mayoral duty. She and staff interviewed the applicants and through a process of interviews and best qualifications all agreed on Mr. Leiman.

Thomas Cotter did not object to the appointment, he just felt that the Council should have been given the opportunity to review all of the applications.

In response to a question from Marion Esty, Mayor Hobart-Hardin said all but two had significant experience, none of the applicants live in the area, and three of them had municipal court experience which included Mr. Leiman.

b. **COUNCIL/COMMITTEE LIAISONS**

Brittany Boothe said she is eager to learn more and is looking forward to meeting with Ric and Thomas Cotter to discuss the West Lane Cities Alliance.

Sandra Larson said the Fern Ridge School District has not met since the last Council meeting but they continue to work on the bond levy scheduled for the May 17, 2011 special election. The Veneta Park Board is a remarkable group of people. The annual Easter Egg Hunt will be April 23<sup>rd</sup> at Veneta Elementary and the Earth/Arbor Day celebration will be April 30<sup>th</sup>. The teen night concert will be June 18<sup>th</sup> at Territorial Sports Complex. The Park Board elected Daphene Sampson as Park Board Chair and Dennis Paronto as Vice Chair. The Fern Park play structure will be installed on May 20 & 21<sup>st</sup>.

Mayor Hobart-Hardin attended the Lane County mayor's meeting last week and as always they had a fascinating discussion. She shared that Veneta recently adopted an Animal Control Policy and many in attendance requested a copy. She said that the City of Lowell licenses cats.

Marion Esty said the Fern Ridge Library Foundation met last week and had a good speaker who was a remedial reading teacher years ago. She talked about a program where some of the energy groups in the surrounding area work together and provide reading and learning programs to schools. The board would like to move forward with bringing the program to our local schools. The board has a new member who was referred by David Floyd, MD.

5. **STAFF REPORTS**

a. **COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR.....BRIAN ISSA**

(1) **Resolution No 1047** – A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING DOG LICENSING AND OTHER ANIMAL CONTROL FEES AND FINES FOR THE CITY OF VENETA; AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 1046

Resolution 1047 is an update to our bail schedule in order to comply with the current ORS penalties and the City's maximum penalties.

Barking & Nuisance Dogs - maximum fine allowed by ORS is \$250.00 for third offense. Failure to report a biting dog and failure to quarantine a biting dog were brought into line with maximum fine allowed by City's ordinance; \$400 for the second offense and \$500.00 for the third offense. Fines for owning exotic animals in City limits increased to be more in line with the ORS penalty by changing it to \$325 for the first offense; \$400 for the second; and \$500 for the third offense.

On July 1, 2011 the \$45 surcharge will need to be removed from the bail schedule used by the Judge; however, the Resolution will not need to be changed.

Thomas Cotter commended staff on the Resolution but he felt the fines for a dog at large seemed excessive and he didn't recall the policy manual providing criteria to determine when to issue a citation. In response, Kyle said the first offense for a dog at large is almost always a verbal warning.

Ric said Kyle, Teresa, and Jerry work with residents when dogs escape. Most of the bail schedule is set to address chronic pet owners who don't create a good environment for their own dogs, neighbors and their pets.

In response to further questions from Thomas Cotter, Kyle said the funds generated from a citation rarely cover the staff time and resources spent retrieving a habitual dog at large. The new Animal Control Policy manual will provide staff with the criteria to determine the fines. The majority of the dogs at large are returned home with a warning. If a pet owner is dealt with for the second time a citation is almost always issued.

In response to a question from Sandra Larson, Kyle said if a dog at large is unlicensed, the owner has 10 days to get the proper license. If they don't citations are issued for an unlicensed dog as well as dog at large.

In response to a question from Marion Esty, Kyle said there isn't one specific area within the City that we have problems with dogs at large, it's the entire City.

**MOTION: Thomas Cotter made a motion to approve Resolution 1047. Marion Esty seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 5-0.**

b. **PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT.....KYLE SCHAUER**

(1) **Purchase of Ultraviolet (UV) Disinfection Equipment for the Upgrade for the City of Veneta Wastewater Treatment Plant**

Civil West Engineering wrote and distributed a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the purchase of Ultra Violet (UV) disinfection equipment which is the central piece of the UV upgrade that they are designing for the City-Project T6 of the wastewater Capital Improvement Plan.

As part of their contract, Civil West was asked to put together a pre-selection process for the equipment used for the UV upgrade. The equipment needs to be decided on prior to completion of the final design.

Five responses to the RFP were received and reviewed by Kyle and two Civil West engineers. Using a calculation that considered price, expected maintenance costs and operational equipment costs they came up with a value they referred to as "Net Present Value". Using the Net Present Value, serviceability and experience, they determined that ITT-Wedeco provided the best responsive bid of \$150,960.00. It was also realized that the City can see a cost savings by purchasing the equipment directly from the manufacturer rather than through the contractor.

This project is identified in the Capital Improvement Plan and was included in the 2010-2011 FY Budget.

In response to questions from Thomas Cotter, Kyle said the recent site visit was very helpful. Kyle said the UV system will be used year round but winter flows are lower but the system must be able to run at the high flows during the summer months.

In response to Mayor Hobart-Hardin, Kyle said the bids ranged by quite a bit mainly because one low bid was from a company with no distribution or trouble shooting centers in the United States. Locating replacement parts and/or telephone service would create problems. Wedeco has a northwest distribution center where they can overnight parts and also a 24 hour telephone help line.

**MOTION: Thomas Cotter made a motion to accept Civil West Engineering, Inc.'s proposal to purchase the UV Disinfection equipment from ITT-Wedeco for a price not to exceed \$150,960.00. Marion Esty seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 5-0.**

(2) Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) Program Update

In 2006, the City began the installation of an Automatic Meter Reading Program (AMR) on all new and existing water services. This system allows meters to be read via radio transmission from the meter register to a data collection device and in turn transferred to the billing software. The cost of this project was approximately \$240,000 and is now complete. Reading meters used to take public works employees 45 to 50 hours each month and the billing process took office staff 50 hours per month to complete. Now that the AMR is complete reading the 1,603 water services in the system took public works a total of three hours to read meters and office staff four hours to process and send out the bills. Last month was the first time the entire system worked flawlessly. From now on all new services will be outfitted with AMR.

Mayor Hobart-Hardin commended Kyle on the report. She was surprised that it took five years to complete.

Kyle said the project was budgeted so we did a little at a time. Because we took five years to retrofit all meters, the crew really knew the system and learned how to accurately register the correct use and the ability to query the software.

In response to a question from Thomas Cotter, Darci said only the past due water accounts received a notice that erroneously added \$100 to their balance.

Ric said in 2006 when the project was started many of the new meters were paid for by the builders as new construction. It will take a few years to recoup the entire \$240,000 but he felt it shouldn't take us as long as we thought to see the original investment returned back to the City.

In response to a question from Thomas Cotter, Kyle said years ago the decision was made to use a meter than could be retrofitted at a future date. About 600 meters less than six years old were retrofitted as part of the regular meter replacement program. The consumption reports are also more accurate.

- c. ASSOCIATE PLANNER.....ZAC MOODY  
(1) Adoption of Bolton Hill Sport Complex Master Plan

At the March 28, 2011 City Council meeting, staff presented the Council with a proposed Bolton Hill Sports Complex (BHSC) Master Plan. Staff recommended adoption of the BHSC Master Plan at the April 11<sup>th</sup> Council meeting to include changes recommended by Territorial Sports Program (TSP). TSP representatives presented the proposed BHSC plan to their Board on April 6, 2011 and there were no changes recommended by the TSP Board.

In response to a question from Mayor Hobart-Hardin, Zac said TSP representatives are concerned about the price tag but they saw their partnership with the City to be very positive.

**MOTION: Sandra Larson made a motion to adopt the Bolton Hill Sports Complex Master Plan as approved by Territorial Sports Program (TSP). Thomas Cotter seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 5-0.**

- d. CITY ADMINISTRATOR.....RIC INGHAM  
(1) Approval of the Fern Ridge Service Center Lease Agreement & Banking Agreement (A)

Zac said the Infrastructure Finance Authority (IFA) requires that an applicant for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) submit an executed lease agreement with the grant application. A draft lease agreement was sent to IFA as part of the original CDBG application submitted in 2009 and was revised to reflect the use restriction outlines in the 2011 Method of Distribution when a project is funded with CDBG funds. The lease agreement has been reviewed by Mid-Lane Community Partnerships (MLCP) and approved by legal counsel.

Ric said the IFA needs documentation that the City and MLCP have worked through the specifics of the lease. The City is willing to cover the general insurance for the first year which can be attached to our existing insurance at a minimal cost. Twelve months after MLCP occupies the building they will assume insurance coverage. Staff put the agreement together based on other city's agreements with non-profit partners, the steering committee, and MLCP. CDBG wants to see that the partners have worked through the operating agreement, what the cost will be to operate the facility, and that we've done all the homework.

The banking agreement is between MLCP and the City and establishes a high yield checking/savings account for the purpose of supporting fundraising efforts for the construction and facility operating reserves for the FRSC.

In response to a question from Mayor Hobart-Hardin, Zac said an estimated reserve fund ranged from \$1,000 to \$6,000. While the warranties are still in effect the architect recommended setting \$500 aside monthly for the first few years to build the reserve fund quickly.

In response to questions from Thomas Cotter, Zac said the operation subcommittee determined who would occupy the space and the architect determined what a monthly operating cost would be and came up with their annual estimates for occupation costs. Some of the estimates were vague but the figures will be reviewed again to make sure all partners shared space is accurate and who will be in what area of the building.

**MOTION: Thomas Cotter made a motion to direct the City Administrator to sign the FRSC Lease Agreement and Banking Agreement.**

Ric requested the Council make two separate motions.

**MOTION: Thomas Cotter withdrew the motion.**

**MOTION: Thomas Cotter made a motion to direct the City Administrator to sign the FRSC Lease Agreement. Marion Esty seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 5-0.**

**MOITON: Thomas Cotter motioned to direct the City Administrator to sign the FRSC Banking Agreement. Marion seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 5-0.**

(2) 2010 Census Results for Lane County

Ric said the most recent population numbers were provided by Bill Clingman of LCOG to the City mangers last week. Unfortunately, they're not what we expected. The 2010 Census results reflect Veneta's population is 4,561 and Portland State University's (PSU) population estimate has Veneta at 5,035. We're concerned with a decrease in population of 500 residents because of the revenue we receive per resident. In 2000 the Census Bureau calculated 300 fewer residents than the PSU estimate. We challenged that figure and after many staff hours spent on the challenge the Census Bureau gave us two additional people. Ric has requested Bill Clingman and LCOG to put together some aerial maps that we could use to determine how many houses there are in City limits and we should be able to determine which figure is more accurate.

Mayor Hobart-Hardin said this topic was discussed at the Mayor's meeting she attended and the majority of the Mayors at the table wanted to challenge the Census bureaus population numbers.

In response to questions from Thomas Cotter, Ric said the census number is the number we operate from. When applying for grant funds the City is required to come up with matching funds. For example the City would like to apply for grant funds available through the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department for a pedestrian trail. If our population is below 5,000 the matching funds needed from the City is 20% of a \$100,000 project. If our population is over 5,000 the matching funds needed from the City is 40%. Ric said we need to discuss both population figures with Council and decide if we want to continue with the challenge or use the lower figure and go out for all these grants.

Shauna said the City receives \$70 per person in state revenue.

**6. OTHER**

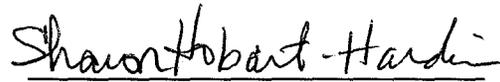
Ric said the City would like to show our support for the Fern Ridge School District's upcoming bond levy. School superintendent, Dr. Freidrich asked the City to pass another resolution in support of the bond levy. City staff prepared Resolution 1038 in support of bond measure 20-179 which on was on the November 2, 2010 ballot.

Darci indicated that after Resolution 1038 was drafted staff realized State election laws prohibit the City from drafting a resolution in support of any kind of bond measure. The school district will need to provide the resolution for Mayor Hobart-Hardin to sign.

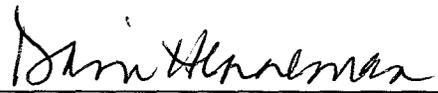
Ric said several homeless camps were discovered in January on City property north of City Hall and near the railroad tracks which resulted in three separate fires. Staff would like to trespass all persons at the camps that are on City property and have staff or another contractor clean the area up. Fires could have a devastating impact on the City if this happens during the dry season. Lane County Fire District No. 1 provided the first report and staff will continue to work with the district and sheriff's office to follow this issue.

**7. ADJOURN**

Mayor Hobart-Hardin adjourned the Veneta City Council at 8:40 p.m.

  
Sharon Hobart-Hardin, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Darci Henneman, Assistant City Recorder  
(minutes prepared by Dhenneman)

## PUBLIC NOTICE AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The City of Veneta is eligible to apply for a 2011 Community Development Block Grant from the Oregon Business Development Department. Community Development Block Grant funds come from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The grants can be used for public facilities and housing improvements, primarily for persons with low and moderate incomes.

Approximately \$15 million will be awarded to Oregon non-metropolitan cities and counties in 2011. The maximum grant that a city or county can receive is \$2,000,000.

The City of Veneta is preparing an application for a 2011 Community Development Block Grant from the Oregon Business Development Department for the Fern Ridge Service Center to be located near the corner of West Broadway and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, replacing the existing Garcia Center. It is estimated that the proposed project will benefit at least 11,320 persons, of whom 100% will be low or moderate income.

A public hearing will be held by the Veneta City Council at 7:00pm on April 11, 2011 at the Veneta Administrative Center. The purpose of this hearing is for the Veneta City Council to obtain citizen views and to respond to questions and comments about: Community development and housing needs, especially the needs of low and moderate income persons, as well as other needs in the community that might be assisted with a Community Development Block Grant project; and the proposed project.

Written comments are also welcome and must be received by April 11, 2011 at Veneta Administrative Center, 88184 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Veneta, Oregon, by mail to P.O. Box 458, Veneta, Oregon or by fax at 541-935-1838. Both oral and written comments will be considered by the Veneta City Council in deciding whether to apply.

The location of the hearing is accessible to persons with disabilities. Please let Darci Henneman, Assistant City Recorder at 541-935-2191 know if you will need any special accommodations to attend or participate in the meeting.

More information about Oregon Community Development Block Grants, the proposed project, and records about the City of Veneta's past use of Community Development Block Grant funds is available for public review at Veneta Administrative Center during regular office hours. Advance notice is requested. If special accommodations are needed, please notify Darci Henneman, Assistant City Recorder at 541-935-2191 so that appropriate assistance can be provided.

Permanent involuntary displacement of persons or businesses is not anticipated as a result from the proposed project. If displacement becomes necessary, alternatives will be examined to minimize the displacement and provide required/reasonable benefits to those displaced. Any low and moderate income housing which is demolished or converted to another use will be replaced.

My name is Kathy McClemons and I live at 25647 Jeans Rd. I am a volunteer and participate at our local Senior Meals since 2004.

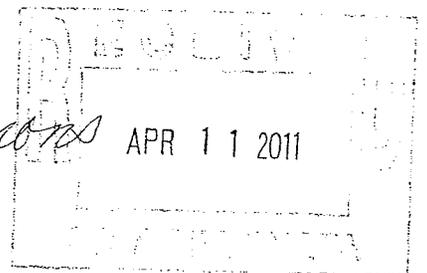
We need a new Center as we have none of our own. Right now we are renting from our School District, which we thank.

All of our activities: lunch sales etc, happen here. It is very small for the amount of people we have attending. Plus the parking is horrible.

This Center seems to be getting smaller with the amount of new Seniors attending.

If we didn't have a Center, there would be no lunches for those that really need it. Plus a lot of these seniors need an "out" to be with others now & then.

Thank You,  
Kathy McClemons



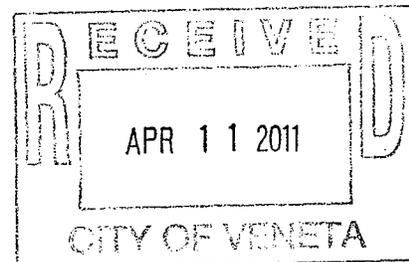
April 11, 2011

My name is Linda Garcia. I have been a volunteer for the Love Project food pantry since June of 2003. I am currently the assistant manager. During these eight years the need for food has increased greatly. The heavy days of usage were twenty boxes, now that number is considered a light day by the volunteers. Fortunately our food supply has increased also. The Oregon Food Bank, USDA, Food for Lane County, and local organizations and individual donations have come together and managed to meet the increase in food need, so far.

The statistics for the number of families, and pounds of donated food have already been submitted by our board of directors, but perhaps I can put names to those facts.

Below is an incomplete list of support given by the Fern Ridge Community. My apologies to those I have omitted. It was unintentional and their support is greatly appreciated.

Two Postal Service drives, May and December  
Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts ...October/November  
Curves...April  
Methodist Church, toilet paper in fall, cleaning supplies in spring  
Elmira Church...food  
Catholic Church...food  
Baptist Church...food  
Mormon Church...gloves and hats  
Fire Department  
Camp Fire  
Farmer's Market  
Ray's Food Place  
Our Daily Bread  
TSP  
Local farmers and gardeners  
Individuals...\$\$...food  
Scan-a-coupon at Rays  
Various citizens picking up bread and sweets from grocery stores for us



We are currently staffed, three days a week by 16 dedicated volunteers. Some are here one day, many others two or more. Other members of the community have volunteered and moved on to other things and we have a substitute volunteer list. Our Tuesday unpacking crew consists of two drivers, and 4 additional volunteers. They labor under uncomfortable conditions, no loading dock and everything (3000-5000 pounds of food) lowered from the truck parked on Territorial Road, put on hand trucks and wheeled into the building. In addition we have four volunteer board members and the pantry manager.

The conditions the volunteers work under would be considerably improved by the new building. We have no walk-in cooler or freezer. The addition of these two items would allow us to have additional food on the premises and keep it safer. Our hallways are frequently crowded. The rooms for shopping are small and shared with freezers, making those rooms very crowded at times. We are in need of more parking spaces and the access for disabled and elderly is available, but inadequate. Our clients are extremely patient, good-natured and appreciate the time we take to pack their boxes, but things could be easier for them.

We have no deep sink for washing items, no drinking fountain, and the bathrooms are in frequent need of repair. The carpet is not the best flooring for our needs. New space for arrangement of shelving would give us the ability to keep better track of "first in, first out". We are in constant awe that the floor holds the weight of the canned foods. This building is a 40 year old "temporary" building and has served us well, but with the increase in need it is stretched to its capacity.

We have had clients in tears, elated, scared, and overwhelmed by their circumstances. They frequently leave after hugs all around, smiles, laughter and grateful for food for a few more days. A new building would not change those emotions, but the security of having our own building for the food pantry and not worrying about the needs the school district has would be very comforting.

Respectfully submitted.

Linda Garcia  
89332 Fields Road,  
Elmira, OR 97437

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda Garcia".

Good Evening Everyone,

Wanted to talk about the New Senior Center and why I feel it is needed.

First of all, if we did not have this for our community I feel it would be a terrible hardship for our senior citizens. Since I volunteer as a driver, I hear the people tell me how grateful they are to have this service. They would not know what they would do without out it, as most of them do not have anyone to help support them in their health care as well as all the other services that are done for them at the center.

The current center is so old and so small. There is no more space for anything more. Everything is used at it max and then some. I see the people unloading the food for the food pantry on the street and that looks very dangerous! Would be something if someone would get hurt while trying to help with the food pantry.

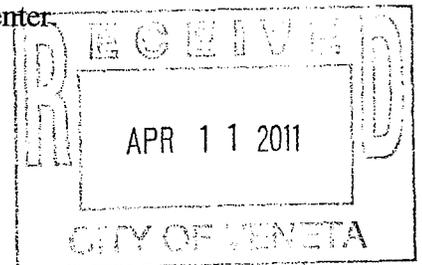
Our Seniors need a nice place to go, one that they can be proud of and have a nice space to be in. The same can be said for the food pantry, those people work very hard to keep things the best they can with the limited facility that they have.

We have so many services that goes on in this building and if the School would decide that they have to have that space, where would we be without this center.

Thank you for your time.

Lois Riha

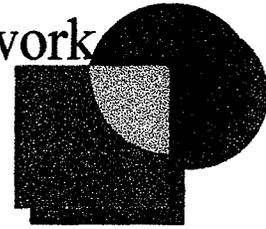
88160 Lindsay Ln.  
Veneta, OR 97489



I see this as a great way for Seniors to connect with others in community. They can have a nice lunch together, gets them out in the community and really serves them well. They can get a little fitness, nurse comes check blood pressure and they get to know others as well.

# Fern Ridge Community Action Network

*Leadership in Action*



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To: Veneta City Council  
From: Fern Ridge Community Action Network  
Date: April 11, 2011

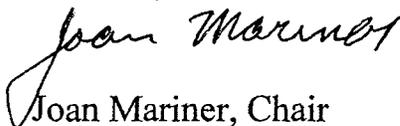
Fern Ridge Community Action Network (CAN) supports the City of Veneta's application for a Community Development Block Grant to construct the Service Center in Veneta.

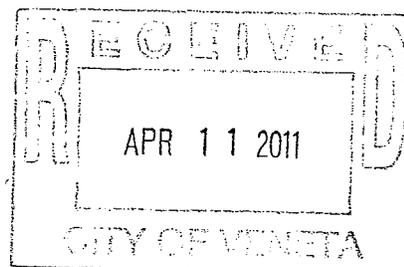
The present location in the Garcia Center has insufficient space to conduct the basic activities of the Food Pantry and Senior services, and many needed expansions are impossible.

Fern Ridge CAN supports many community activities, and we see a particular need for expansion of the Food Pantry. At present, the pantry is feeding roughly 1300 families a month from a space that does not allow dignity or flexibility for workers or recipients. In addition, adequate space would allow a wider range of healthy foods for those who require these services.

At present, seniors who wish to participate in exercise programs or expanded recreational activities must often travel out of the Veneta area. That is often impossible because of finances or mobility issues. An expanded Senior Center would allow close, convenient Senior Services accessible to all in an attractive, welcoming setting.

Sincerely,

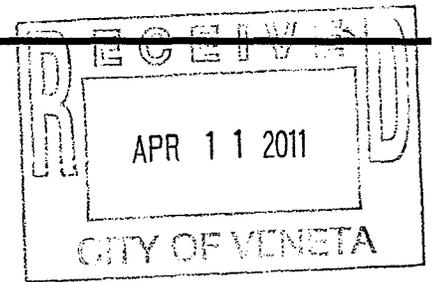
  
Joan Mariner, Chair



## Zac Moody

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**From:** Olivia Johnson [ojohnson@fernridge.k12.or.us]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 11, 2011 3:25 PM  
**To:** Zac Moody  
**Subject:** Student Health and the Food Pantry



Zac:

Below is what I would say to the City Council at the public hearing tonight. If you want me to come and say it in person, let me know. Olivia

As the principal of Veneta Elementary School and an active member of our community, I would like to add my support to the new Service Center, especially the Food Pantry. I don't think we can underestimate the importance of the food pantry and the services provided by Food for Lane County to the Veneta/Elmira community. When it comes to the importance of good nutrition on student learning and student health, the research is clear:

- Good Nutrition improves the learning potential and well-being of children. Many studies report significant links between nutritional status and cognitive test scores or school performance. Children with more adequate diets score higher on tests of factual knowledge than those with less adequate nutrition, independent of family income, school quality, or teacher ability. Conversely malnutrition impairs the ability to concentrate and can affect aptitude, attendance, and attentiveness.
- Good Nutrition lays the foundation for a healthy adulthood. When children are well nourished, they tend to be ill less and those illnesses tend to be less severe and of shorter duration. Good nutrition fosters mental, social, and physical well-being throughout life by strengthening positive body image and a sense of personal worth.

And while there are school age programs that provide students with a breakfast or lunch while school is in session, the need for the food pantry becomes clear when we look at the impact of malnutrition on children younger than five:

- Lack of nutrition during pregnancy and the first two years of life results in damage to the brain that may be permanent and irreversible.
- Iron is a necessary part of brain tissue. Nerve impulses move slower when iron deficiency is present. Iron deficiency during infancy can cause permanent damage as can too much iron in your diet. Iron deficiency during the first two years of life can cause behavior change and delayed psychomotor development.
- Iodine deficiency during early years is associated with reduced cognitive ability and achievement in school age condition.
- Under nutrition results in decreased activity levels, decreased social interactions, decreased curiosity, and decreased cognitive functioning.

In short, the damage malnutrition does to a child may be permanent and irrevocable before they ever step foot in a kindergarten classroom.

And while the research is clear, the need in our community is equally clear. At Veneta Elementary, 57% of our students qualify for free or reduced lunch. For many of these children, the school breakfast and lunch are the only healthy meals that they are guaranteed a day. We have students who tell us that they dread the weekend or even vacations because they may not eat regularly while school is out. The numbers are higher at Elmira Elementary where 61% of the students qualify for free or reduced lunch.

For these children and their families, the food pantry provides a lifeline. It provides food resources for families in need that goes beyond the school breakfast, the school lunch, or even the summer food program. The food pantry provides food that the children in our community, whether they are 2 or 12, need in order to grow up to be healthy, happy, and productive adults.

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Checked by AVG - [www.avg.com](http://www.avg.com)

Version: 10.0.1209 / Virus Database: 1500/3565 - Release Date: 04/11/11

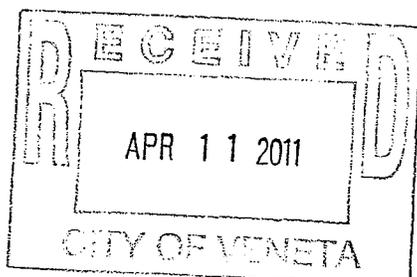
Patti Little  
21877 Allison Road  
Noti Oregon 97461

Thanks you for the opportunity to express my thoughts on the need for the Fern Ridge Service Center. My husband Rick and I have lived in the Fern Ridge area since 1990 and are please that Veneta has housed a service center which addresses the needs of area residents who are seniors and low income. We appreciate the fact that the Fern Ridge School district has leased the current facility which allows Mid-Lane Community Partners to operate. The facility was renovated in the past and is once again in need of additional renovations. The facility is no longer large enough to meet the needs of seniors and low income area residents as their numbers have increased and are projected to continue to grow.

I support the effort of the City of Veneta to seek funding to build the new Fern Ridge Service Center which will better serve both the existing and future needs of area residents. The work completed to date to raise local matching funds for the project is to be commended, as is the City's support of this project.

In the interest of transparency, I must disclose that I am the Program Manager of the Senior Connection Program, one of the programs which will be housed in the new center.

Thank you for your time.

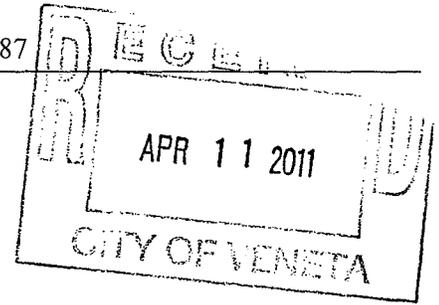




# Lane County Fire District #1

88050 Territorial Hwy. - P.O. Box 275 - Veneta, OR 97487

Fire - EMS (541) 935-2226 - Fax (541) 935-2390



April 11, 2011

Our organization would like to express support for the Fern Ridge Service Center and the services that would be provided. We respond to a significant number of 911 calls each month that are not true emergencies. These calls are generated by individuals who simply feel they have no place to turn, and 911 is their only option. Activating the 911 Emergency System for a headache or similar issue is not efficient use of the system resources and may well take resources away from a true emergency. The Service Center would successfully deflect these types of incidents to be handled more appropriately and at considerable saving of tax payer dollars. The Fern Ridge Service Center is an important component in the plan to meet the needs of our citizens.

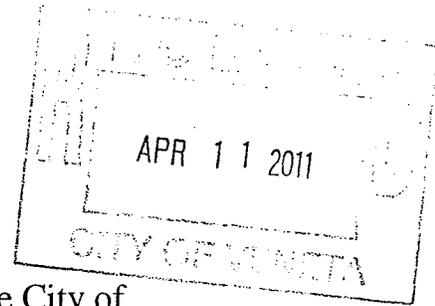
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rod Smith".

Rod Smith,

Assistant Chief

To: Veneta City Council  
From: Fern Ridge Community Action Network  
Date: April 11, 2011



Fern Ridge Community Action Network (CAN) supports the City of Veneta's application for a Community Development Block Grant to construct the Service Center in Veneta.

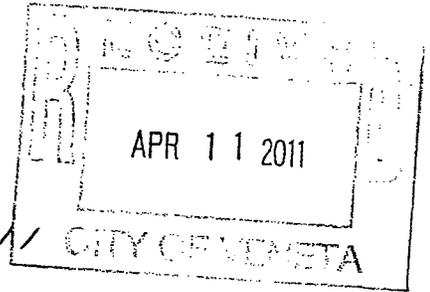
The present location in the Garcia Center has insufficient space to conduct the basic activities of the Food Pantry and Senior services, and many needed expansions are impossible.

Fern Ridge CAN supports many community activities, and we see a particular need for expansion of the Food Pantry. At present, the pantry is feeding roughly 1300 families a month from a space that does not allow dignity or flexibility for workers or recipients. In addition, adequate space would allow a wider range of healthy foods for those who require these services.

At present, seniors who wish to participate in exercise programs or expanded recreational activities must often travel out of the Veneta area. That is often impossible because of finances or mobility issues. An expanded Senior Center would allow close, convenient Senior Services accessible to all in an attractive, welcoming setting.

Sincerely,

Joan Mariner, Chair



4/11/11

My name is Joan Carter. I live at 88241 Thomas Lane, Veneta.

I have been a volunteer at the Love Project Food Pantry for 6 years. During that time I have seen the volume of clients increase from a "normal" day of 20 families seeking food to a "normal" day now of 40 or more. We are open three days per week, so that is a large number of people.

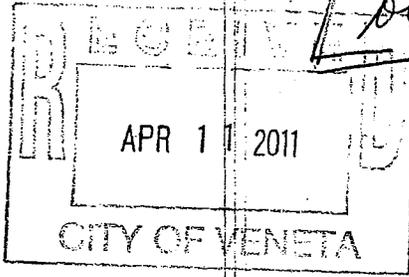
We have outgrown the building we are in. On an average day we have clients lining the hallways and it becomes very noisy and confusing for our volunteers to know which cart is currently being filled.

Parking is also a problem. Since we share the parking lot with the school our clients have to park at the far end of the parking lot or across the street. This is not a problem for the younger people but it is a huge problem for the older or handicapped people.

I strongly support the plan  
for the Fern Ridge Service Center.  
I volunteer there 10 hours per  
week.

Sincerely,

Jane Carter



For the New Senior Center

Shirley Overed  
541 - 935 - 7673

It is a blessing that there is a meeting place where the Veneta and surrounding area seniors have a place to go to for not only the meals that are provided, but also the companionships, recreation and exercise programs that are provided for them. Although I don't take part in all their activities, I know that there is a need. Seniors, especially those who live alone, need to be and feel part of their community, and knowing that there are activities for them, at least on the Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays here in Veneta, can ease their days, increase their energy level, laugh and have fun, and all this at a minimal cost to them.

The Senior Connections office could improve with larger space. Presently the reception-interview room-photo copy and their storage area are

crammed into a small space.  
and this is also the entrance area  
not only for them but also for  
L.O.V.E. Project staff to come in.

Which brings us to the L.O.V.E.  
Program. This program uses almost  
one-half of the building where the  
seniors meet. As a year-and-a-half  
volunteer, I can see the need for larger  
space. Space is always needed for storage.  
There is a major need for better ingress  
and egress of clients who come in for  
food boxes. On a busy day, one where  
we might process over forty families,  
this means one family must be  
processed every five minutes. And this  
causes absolute chaos on the narrow  
hallway where they must wait their  
turn. And there are times when we  
get a large supply of frozen items,  
sometimes that has to go to be stored  
at the homes of some staff, since there  
is not too much freezer space here.  
Washroom facilities are next to non-existent.  
Water is lacking in that there is no  
drinking fountain, and the toilet is tiered.

**Zac Moody**

---

**From:** Eilidh Lowery [pastoreilidh@qwestoffice.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 11, 2011 2:52 PM  
**To:** Zac Moody  
**Subject:** "Support for the Fern Ridge Service Center"

Zac,

Here is my statement for the public hearing about the Service Center.

As pastor of Valley United Methodist Church I am very supportive of the new Fern Ridge Service Center. I am excited about the services unfolding in the community and see the Service Center as a great way forward for us all.

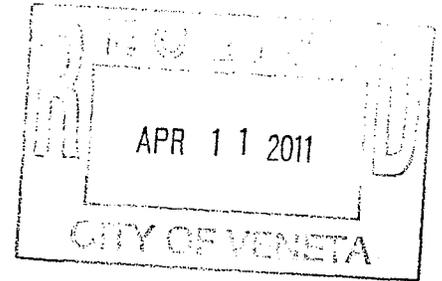
Pastor Eilidh Lowery

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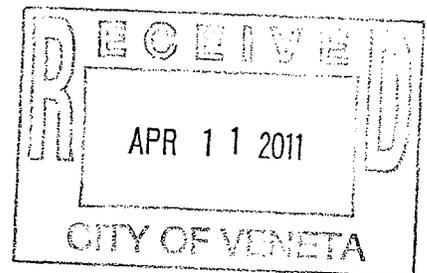
Checked by AVG - [www.avg.com](http://www.avg.com)

Version: 10.0.1209 / Virus Database: 1500/3565 - Release Date: 04/11/11



Hello!

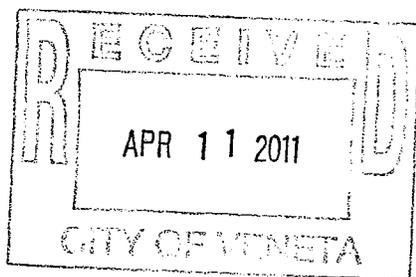
My name is Jean Melhorn, address 25127 Legacy Ct in Veneta. Since my husband's death, the Senior Center has been a God's Blessing for me as it gets me out of the house and to enjoy all of the activities they have. They do need a new building very badly as this one is in badly need of repairs and more room for all of their other functions.



4-11-2011

Im Ida Mae Fields  
25423 Arnold Lane, Elmeria, Or.  
-97437-

I have been coming to the  
Toney Garcia Service Center  
for 37 years and I'm a  
Volunteer, we have been  
in 3 homes in that time  
and I would like to see a  
permant building for the  
senior's Center as the  
seniors need's to have a  
place to go and enjoy being  
out and about, just like kids



Thank you  
— Ida Mae Fields

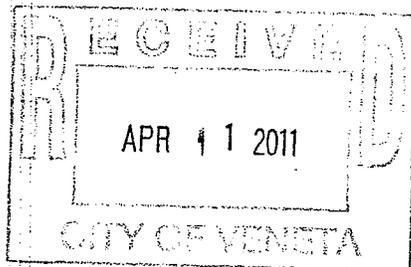
April 11 - 2011

I'm Nancy Haury, 25797 Fleck Rd,  
Veneta.

The Senior Center provides so  
much for folks that need a good  
meal, good friends. The present  
site is too small - a new one would  
help reach more people and give more  
pride to the ones using it.

I've been involved with the Tony  
Garcia Center for 15 years. Please!  
Let's get a new center.

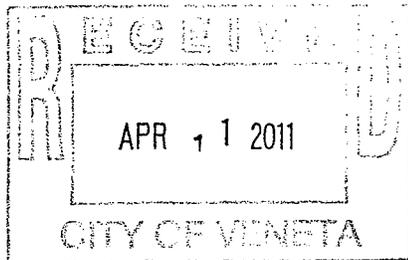
Nancy Haury



4-11-11

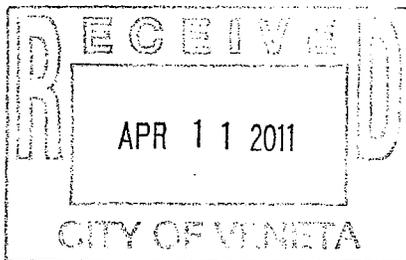
I am Ronald Norton & I live at  
21888 Vaughn Rd. I have been volunteering  
at the Veneta meals program since 1999  
There is a great need for more space  
and a building of our own.

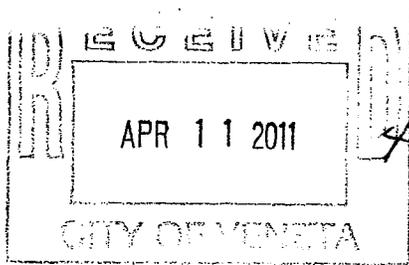
Ronald Norton



I have been a volunteer for  
fifteen plus yrs. We do need more  
space. To accomodate our people. We  
do need more parking space.

Geraldine Adank  
Shalimar Park #108  
974 60 Territorial Rd.





To Whom it may concern

My name is James Kaufman, I volunteer at the Veneta Garcia Center; which is the only senior center in this area. This location is also where my ailing grandfather comes 3 days a week to get help w/ food, companionship, exercise & hope for the future. This location is a vital part of his & many others, health and wellness. My time here has opened my eyes to how very important this senior center is to the Veneta, Elmira, & Noti area. I have also witnessed how much this facility is in need of repair or reconstruction... in other words it's falling apart & is no longer sufficient in size or condition to support the growing population of seniors in need in this area. I am begging you to please realize how ~~the~~ much the new facility is needed. I have grown to love many of the seniors that attend here for support, I think of them like family and you should too... as they are the generation that made this country what it is today. Please help support them & award them the money they need and more importantly deserve.

Sincerely,  
James R Kaufman

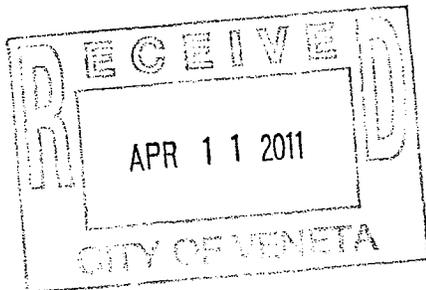
88071 LIAMA LN.  
VENETA, OR 97487  
541-553-8835

Hello:

I am Ramona Archer, my address is  
25415 Mayer Lane, Elmira. I am a  
participant with the Senior Meals program  
for 10 years

Since the Meal site is on school property  
we need a new site very badly.

We also need more parking space

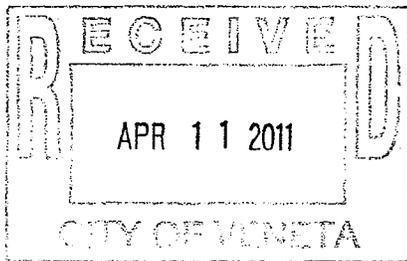


Hello,

My name is Dorothy Casterlin and my address is 25596 Lawrence Road, Junction City, OR 97448.

I have been going to the Garcia Senior center for five years and it has been a great send Thank you

Sincerely,  
Dorothy Casterlin.

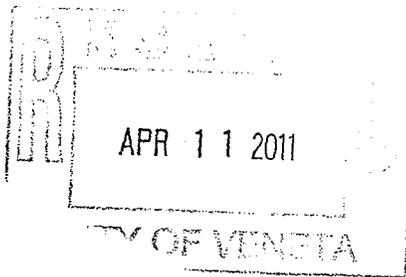


April 11, 2011

I participate and volunteer here at Garcia Center. It's very important for all of us as seniors to continue to be able to meet for companionship, friendship to share a meal. We do low impact exercises. We really need more room to expand our activities and we also need more parking space. I absolutely support the new Sierraville center.

Please support us seniors, so we can continue to move forward and remain independent in our lives.

Sincerely,  
Wanda Peterson



Hello

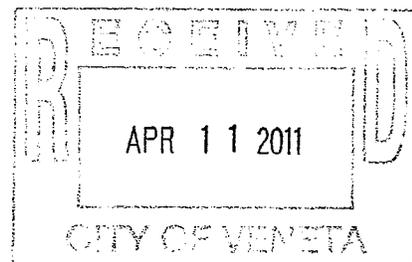
I am Gloria Meier. My address is  
2515 E. Broadway Apt. 4 Veneta. My phone  
no. is 935-1174.

I've been going to Senior Center for  
5 years now. The Center means a lot  
to me. The friendship there is a blessing.

We are all in one room, it's cramped  
& noisy. I'm looking forward to the  
new Senior Center. I appreciate the  
fact that the school has been so  
patient about our being here.

The Tony Garcia Center w/ this love  
project sure has been a blessing too.

Thank You  
Gloria Meier

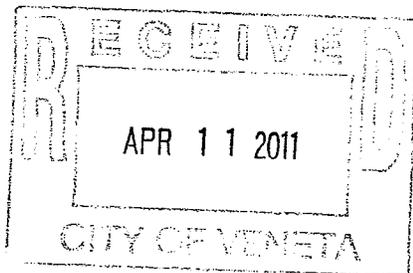


April 11, 2011

Hello -

I am Lucille Heutz, I live at 26699 Pickens Road. I have lived here in Oregon since 1995 and have enjoyed my stay here very much. Most of my pleasure in living in this area is because of the visiting with my fellow seniors at the Senior Center. It is almost impossible to list all the reasons for going to the Senior Center - I mention the fellowship, also the opportunity of being useful by volunteering at various functions. The contribution the Center makes to the livability of this area. Having lived in many other communities, I know that having this Center makes Veneta special.

I have supported this Center and the community by monetary as well as volunteering in many ways. I feel sure that Veneta would suffer without having this valuable asset and will do everything possible to see that it continues.



Thank you  
Lucille Heutz

April 11, 2011

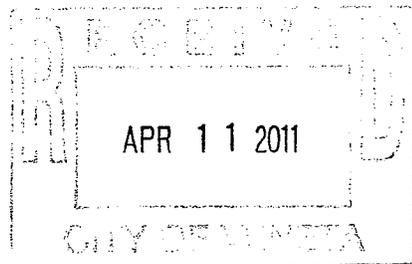
Hello,

I am Vali Webster, my address is 87935 Huston Rd, Veneta, OR. I have been a Senior Companion in Lane Co. for the past three years and our base is the Tony Garcia Service Center.

I personally have enjoyed coming to the Center with my clients because I know we will be welcome and enjoy a friendly visit, well balanced meal and can enjoy some Bingo playing.

The facility has been well used but has outgrown its purpose for Seniors. I would like to support the Fern Ridge Service Center. Many thanks to all who have worked so hard to make the new Center to be a reality for seniors in this great little town of Veneta, Oregon

Sincerely  
Vali Webster



Apr 11, 2011

To the Veneta City Council -

I am a Senior + I have been  
a Volunteer since 1981. I deliver  
meals + pick up people up.

I am now a senior of 77 yrs + go  
to the Senior Center myself.

We need a new center. We have  
a lot of elderly people in Veneta.

Maurice Bronson  
P.O. Box 664



April 11, 2011

Hello,

My name is Judith Andrews.

I participate at the senior center in the Garcia building, I come three days a week.

All of our activities are done in one room, which gets very noisy, we need a new center, for more space, more parking, we need more space so we could increase the activities, also it's wonderful to come here to socialize and to share a meal, it's also a place for our much older seniors to come otherwise they could become shut-in, + lonely.

I support the Jean Ridge service center.

Judith Andrews  
24530 Vaughn Rd.  
Neneta

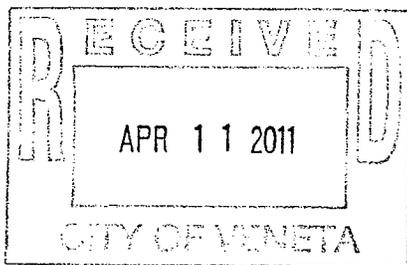


4-11-2011

My name is Leonard Rhodes. I am a volunteer and client of the Love Project food pantry. I volunteer 8 hours a week usually as the "stocker" of boxes.

We have outgrown our space. We need a walk in cooler and freezer, storage facilities for dry goods, shelf space and a safe loading dock.

We have a too-small sink, no drinking fountain and stained, frequently leaking toilet facilities. We also have inadequate & inconvenient access for the elderly and disabled.



Leonard Rhodes  
22618 VAUGHN RD  
Veneta OR

97487