



October 2, 2010

Steve Wheeler - Clackamas County Administrator
Lynn Peterson – Chairman
Bob Austin – Commissioner

Jim Bernard – Commissioner
Charlotte Lehan - Commissioner
Ann Lininger - Commissioner

2051 Kaen Road
Oregon City, Oregon 97045

Dear County Administrator & Commissioners,

On September 23, 2010 the Villages at Mt. Hood convened a Special Town Hall Meeting. The meeting was called to solicit the views of local residents regarding an extremely important issue to our community; namely our “Visitor Information Services”. Visitor Information Services are essential to the economic foundation of our Mt. Hood communities, which is tourism. There were 116 local community members who attended this meeting, making it one of our largest Villages meeting to date.

Unfortunately, the vast majority of our residents in attendance became very upset; many of whom verbally expressed their profound disappointment after learning that our Clackamas County Villages & Hamlet Liaison, Christine Roth chose not to attend our Town Hall Meeting. Ms. Roth emailed the Villages at Mt. Hood Board of Directors on September 19th and stated, “*After careful consideration, I have decided not to attend this Thursday’s special Town Hall meeting given the tenor of the last board meeting, and the extremely negative sentiments expressed.*” With less than 4 days to our Town Hall Meeting, the Villages at Mt. Hood Board of Directors, and more importantly our community were placed in an untenable position where the community was expected to show up in force and Clackamas County was noticeably absent.

Our community was visibly upset about having no Clackamas County representation at our Town Hall Meeting. A motion was taken from the floor, and seconded, for the Villages Board to send a letter to the BCC addressing this issue. Local residents/voters in attendance specifically asked that the Villages at Mt. Hood BOD communicate directly with the BCC regarding our community’s collective disappointment with Ms. Roth’s decision to not attend our September 23rd Town Hall meeting. It is readily apparent to the Villages at Mt. Hood BOD and local community residents, that Ms. Roth’s decision not to attend our Town Hall meeting, for what would appear to be a personal dislike for this community’s passion and support for the specific issue at hand, did not serve the best interest of our Villages BOD, local community residents or the BCC. It should be noted that our community unanimously approved the motion directing this board to send this letter.

As a board designed to assist the BCC with issues pertaining to our Mt. Hood communities, we would like to express our disappointment with Ms. Roth’s decision not to attend. The September 7th



Villages BOD meeting which Ms. Roth refers to in her email as having “*extremely negative sentiments*”, was run professionally and with reasonable decorum. No person in attendance at the September 7th BOD meeting sensed any hostility what so ever. In fact, the tenor of the meeting merely implied a sincere disagreement with Clackamas County’s position on how our Visitor’s Information Services have been handled. Although a majority of local residents have been disappointed at recent events with Clackamas County Tourism and Cultural Affairs, as well as our May 2010 Town Hall elections fiasco, Ms. Roth has never been treated unfairly or unprofessionally. We feel that, at a minimum, Ms. Roth should have coordinated some county support for the September 23rd Town Hall meeting. Her absence not only impacted our community’s perception of Clackamas County’s leadership as a whole, it has unjustly diminished the faith of our residents by perpetuating a general feeling of ineffectiveness as a Villages Board when dealing with the BCC and it’s governance with issues that profoundly affect all of our residents who live within our Mt. Hood boundaries. In fact, the very reasons we are here are to build the community’s faith in our Villages BOD and the collective role of governance with the BCC.

On behalf of the residents who attended the September 23rd, 2010 Town Hall meeting, the Villages at Mt. Hood BOD respectfully request a formal response from the BCC (in writing) to the following question:

Was it Christine Roth’s personal decision not to attend our September 7th Town Hall meeting, or was she directed by County Counsel not to attend due to potential litigation?

We have attached a copy of our local paper, the “Mountain Times” to demonstrate the negative impact her decision has had on this community.

Respectfully,

Doug Saldivar – Chairman
Villages at Mt. Hood Board of Directors

George Wilson - Director
Villages at Mt. Hood Board of Directors