

2/20/25 Work Session

Judith's Opening Remarks

In the years that I have been coming to the park, there have been many discussions about the need to have emergency supplies, mostly due to concerns about Cascadia rising. And we have gathered some medical supplies, but not much else. And if there is a Cascadia type disaster, we will no longer have any federal assistance. FEMA won't be here.

Some of our residents went out and, with their own money, bought foods that are packaged for a long shelf life with the intention of making them available to the entire DBR community. They hadn't found a place to put them, but they were told that there was going to be a price increase within a couple of weeks and they acted, rather than wait for a BOD meeting. They agreed that if the BOD did not approve a storage spot, they would divide the stuff up amongst themselves, as personal supplies.

Allowing them to store the food in the men's restroom by the pool seems entirely innocuous to me. As I understand it, men can still use the facilities. I haven't heard that the food is in anyone's way. They are giving us an opportunity to accept their donation to the community or to refuse it; we are giving them storage until that decision is made.

Whether to have shipping containers, and if so, where to put them is a much tougher decision. It is, fundamentally, a decision about whether or not to have emergency food supplies, because we can't just build a permanent storage shed, due to County restrictions, and we will have to find out if those restrictions apply to temporary-ish storage structures.

The RFA we are talking about today is addressing that issue: Whether we want to have emergency community food and other supplies, and whether we want to use shipping containers and where we would put them. We set up a task force to look at the issues around shipping containers, and those who don't want this were as able to participate as those who do. Certainly, if you feel strongly one way or the other, the Task Force was the best place to begin to have your opinion considered.

This Work Session is another opportunity to voice your opinion. We will get to it a little later in the agenda. This concludes today's speech from the bully pulpit!