President: **Robert Kelley** Vice President: **Brian Waybrant** Secretary: Jerrin Hickman Treasurer: Bill Knepper **Meeting Facilitator:** "Bo" Diaz-Miller Bill Marion Staff Advisor:

PH: 503-378-2289

bill.f.marion@doc.state.or.us

Proposal Updates

Proposal	Status
Coffee Bar In Visit Room	Pending
Fan Sales	Approved
Non A Block level 3 fundraiser	Denied
Bake Sale for Christmas Bags fundraiser	Approved
Food Truck	Pending

Lifers' Unlimited Club Meeting Minutes from June 6, 2019 Secretary-Bear

The following outside guest were present: Roger Martin, Spencer-Wolf, Father Chuck Woods, Gerry Cundari, Barbra Rice, Don Berg, Ruby Berg, David Engle.

The meeting began at 6:10pm.

V.P. Brain Waybrant spoke on the long awaited fans and the banquet menu. The following changes to the menu were proposed: bratwurst instead of pizza, and jojo's instead of corn; the remainder of the menu will be the same as last year.

President Rob spoke on the importance of our participation in the healing garden survey scheduled for 6/17/19. Jimmy Kashi followed up on the topic.

Mr. Spencer-Wolf gave an overview of the handout regarding 11 different surveys/topics for classes he hopes to begin teaching at OSP in the near future. For a copy the handout contact the club office.

Roger Martin updated the club on the juvenile lifer law that passed the house and the senate, and a law that will make changes to the aggravated murder statute.

The meeting concluded at 7:30pm with time left to mingle with guest and use the phone.

Announcements/Upcoming Events

2019 Meeting Dates

July 11th Animal Show – Birds of prev - Confirmed August 8th Annual Lifers Banquet #1 September 12th Annual Lifers Banquet #2 October 10th Annual Lifers' Fundraiser November 14th General Meeting

-O.S.P. Activities Floor-Lifers' Unlimited Club Monthly Newsletter

LIFERS' CLUB PRESENTS

1 Pound Bulk Bag

Frontier Deluxe Veggie Mix

All-Natural, Kosher

Non-Irradiated

No Additives

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Certified Gluten Free

Rated 4 out of 5 Stars



One bag is made from approximately 5lb of fresh Vegetables. Carrots, onion, potatoes, peas, tomatoes, celery, peppers, green beans.

Please submit separate cd-23s for each Fundraiser to Lifers' #2430



Chartered 1968 Volume 51 Issue# 5 **June 2019**

Personal Fans at OSP It's a Miracle!

Yes indeed, the miracle of miracles has happened and battery powered fans are on the way. At this time we are limited to one fan per inmate, but hey, one fan is better than no fan! x

Backpack Program For The Kids

For a number of years now, the Lifers' Unlimited Club has done a yearly "Backpack Program". Last Year we purchased two hundred and fifty backpacks. filled them with school supplies, and donated them to the school age children who come in to the visiting room to see their incarcerated fathers or other family members. Extras were donated to DHS for foster children.

This year will be no different. We have some school supplies already in storage, and are looking to increase what we have. The plan is to begin giving out the backpacks in early August.

If any of you would like to donate to this cause, feel free to fill out a CD-28 for Backpack Program to Lifers' Acct.#2430. x

Bake Sale Fundraiser A Big Success!

Thanks to the efforts of the men who put it together, as well as everyone's dire need for sweets (particularly chocolate chip cookies), our first bake sale event was quickly filled to overflowing. A hearty thank you to everyone who participated. In a few days, we should be making our first deliveries.

Remember, this is a sale that will give back to all of us during the holiday season. This year's Christmas bags will be paid for by the Bake Sale, and the more you buy, the better our Christmas bags will be. x

Congratulations to E-8

On Wednesday, June 5th, the Equality Eight group (sponsored by the Lifers' Unlimited Club) held their first annual "Pride" event. A short film was shown, and there were guest speakers who talked about the history of the Pride movement.

At the heart of it all was the message that everyone, no matter who they are, or what their sexual/gender identity may be, should take pride in themselves, and be treated with dignity and respect by others. A simple message that anyone can and should adopt. x

If you, your friends, or family are experiencing difficulty with the Telmate system, the official Telmate Customer Service Number is: 866-516-0115

Mission Statement

The purpose of the Lifers' Unlimited Club is to unite the incarcerated men of OSP with a goal of improving the quality of life for those inside and outside of these walls. The club will work with charity programs, informational services, youth speaking panels and other positive programs. We cannot change the past, however, we believe through rehabilitation and pro-social behavior we can create a more productive future.

Bill on aggravated Murder could determine fate of death penalty

Whitney WoodworthSalem Statesman Journal

A bill that would narrow the definition of what crimes qualify as aggravated murder could determine the fate of the death penalty in Oregon.

Proponents of Senate Bill 1013 say it would fix a broken, expensive and over-reaching system.

But many prosecutors say the bill effectively repeals the death penalty without sending the issue to voters.

SB 1013, which passed with an 18-9 vote in the Senate, would eliminate many of the factors that make a homicide aggravated murder – the only crime punishable by death in Oregon. The proposal has not yet been considered in the House.

Currently, about 20 circumstances, including the murder of a police officer, a murder involving torture or maiming, murders with multiple victims, and murder-for-hire, qualify as aggravated murder.

The bill seeks to limit those circumstances to only three: the premeditated murder of a child under the age of 14, a prison or jail murder committed by a person already incarcerated on aggravated murder charges, or terroristic acts involving the slaying of two or more people in the attempt to intimidate a civilian population or influence the government.

Rep. Jennifer Williamson, D-Portland, said the narrowed definition aims to reserve the death penalty for the "worst of the worst."

"Whether you believe Oregon should have the death penalty or not, our system is broken," Williamson said.

The state has only executed two people since capital punishment was reinstated by voters in 1984, she said adding that those two executions were both voluntary and made after the inmates gave up on appeals.

The state spends tens of millions of dollars every biennium in defense costs, and victims' families are left without closure for decades as defendants appeal and are resentenced, Williamson said.

"I think (the bill) does a fantastic job of balancing really where people expect the death penalty to be a factor," she said, citing instances like mass shootings and child murders.

With about 20 aggravating factors, Williamson said Oregon has one of the most expansive aggravated murder statutes in the country.

"It's too broad-based right now, too available for anyone in Oregon to say we truly reserve it for the 'worst of the worst'," she said.

But Marion County Deputy District Attorney Katie Suver said the new definition would essentially rule out the death penalty for most, if not all, murder cases.

"We owe a fidelity and a loyalty to what voters have said the law should be," Suver said. "Our concern about the bill is that it effectively and practically, and in fact, changes what the voters said they wanted the law to be in 1984."

Suver listed those currently on death row who would not qualify for capital punishment under the proposed law: David Bartol, who was convicted of stabbing another man to death in the Marion County jail, and Bruce and Joshua Turnidge, the father and son sentenced to death for bombing deaths of two law enforcement officers at a Woodburn bank.

The language of the law about terrorist acts – the same used in the Patriot Act – would make mass shootings, school shootings and the Woodburn bombing hard to prosecute as aggravated murders, Suver said.

Specific intent and whether a defendant meant to intimidate a civilian population can be hard to prove. Not everyone leaves behind a Timothy McVeigh-Style manifesto, and even law enforcement was reluctant to label the Las Vegas Shooting as "domestic terrorism."

Prosecutors had theories abut the Turnidge's motives – hatred of police, a desire to start a militia, prejudice against other races and distrust of incoming President Barack Obama – but proving that beyond a reasonable doubt in order to qualify as aggravated murder would've been difficult.

"Unequivocally, the Woodburn bombing would not qualify," Suver said.

2

The Cost of a death sentence

Not all aggravated murder cases result in a death sentence. Prosecutors often review cases for weeks, months or even years before deciding to seek the death penalty.

In Oregon, prosecutors are able to charge someone with aggravated murder without immediately declaring their intent to seek the death penalty, Williamson said.

"Every aggravated murder case is treated like a death penalty case," she said." They cost almost a million dollars more than a regular murder trial."

Suver said the argument over cost doesn't make sense, especially when considering the opposite scenario: You wouldn't favor the death penalty just because it's cheaper.

"Cost cannot – and should not – be a part of the discussion on whether the death penalty is an appropriate sanction just like it cannot, and should not, be an appropriate part of the discussion on any aspect of criminal law," she said. "This is an expensive process because it should be... because we are talking about the ultimate punishment."

Continued from page 2

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LIFERS' CLUB PRESENTS

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THREE STEPS TO LASTING CHANGE

An Excerpt from Awaken the Giant Within, by Anthony Robbins

STEP ONE: Raise Your Standards

Any time you sincerely want to make a change, the first thing you must do is to raise your standards. When people ask me what really changed my life eight years ago, I tell them that absolutely the most important thing was changing what I demanded of myself. I wrote down all the things I would no longer accept in my life, all the things I would no longer tolerate, and all the things that I aspired to becoming.

Think of the-far reaching consequences set in motion by men and women who raised their standards and acted in accordance with them, deciding they would tolerate no less. History chronicles the inspiring examples of people like Leonardo da Vinci, Abraham Lincoln, Helen Keller, Mahatma Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Jr., Rosa Parks, Albert Einstein, Cesar Chavez, Soichiro Honda, and many others who took the magnificently powerful step of raising their standards. The same power that was available to them is available to you, if you have the courage to claim it. Changing an organization, a company, a country—or a world—begins with the simple step of changing yourself.

STEP TWO: Change Your Limiting Beliefs

If you raise your standards but don't really believe you can meet them, you've already sabotaged yourself. You won't even try; you'll be lacking that sense of certainty that allows you to tap the deepest capacity that's within you even as you read this. Our beliefs are like unquestioned commands, telling us how things are, what's possible and what's impossible, what we can and can not do. They shape every action, every thought, and every feeling that we experience. As a result, changing our belief systems is central to making any real and lasting change in our lives. We must develop a sense of certainty that we can and will meet the new standards before we actually do.

Without taking control of your belief systems, you can raise your standards as much as you like, but you'll never have the conviction to back them up. How much do you think Gandhi would have accomplished had he not believed with every fiber of his being in the power of nonviolent opposition? It was the congruence of his beliefs which gave him access to his inner resources and enabled him to meet challenges which would have swayed a less committed man. Empowering beliefs—this sense of certainty—is the force behind any great success throughout history.

STEP THREE: Change Your Strategy

In order to keep your commitment, you need the best strategies for achieving results. One of my core beliefs is that if you set a higher standard, and you can get yourself to believe, then you certainly can figure out the strategies. You simply will find a way. You see, in life, lots of people know what to do, but few people actually do what they know. Knowing is not enough! You must take action.

A lot of us have wanted to make changes in our lives, but failed many times over. Our failure was rooted in not understanding the full implication of *change*. If we continue to do the same old things, we will still get the same old results it doesn't matter how much we *want* change. Einstein is quoted as saying that doing the same thing over and over while expecting a different result is the definition of insanity. A new strategy is essential for change. A new way of thinking; a new way of seeing things; a new way of treating others...it is endless.

A man who wants to get along better with people, might have to stop yelling at or criticizing them. A man who wants to stay out of jail might have to stop stealing. A man who wants to stay off drugs or alcohol might need to seek treatment.

The bottom line is that life is what it is: it is not going to change for us. We have to do the changing. x

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P.O. Box 70092 Henrico, VA 23255 Every defendant has the right to appeal, for post-conviction relief and to parole-eligibility hearings. Those rights won't go away even if the death penalty is eliminated, Suver said.

Although it passed through the Senate with little debate on the floor, SB 1013 has received pushback from prosecutors and the Oregon District Attorney's Association, which states that changes to the death penalty are should be done "in a transparent manner and should be decided by Oregon voters."

Williamson said the opposition stems from the fact that being able to put the death penalty on the table is a powerful tool for prosecutors.

"If you have the ability as a prosecutor to tell a defendant, 'Here's a plea deal and if you take this plea deal you can guarantee that you won't receive a death sentence,' that's incredibly powerful," she said.

Future Dangerousness

A portion of the bill also addresses one of the four questions jurors are required to address during the sentencing phase of a trial.

Jurors are required by state law to consider whether the defendant committed the murder deliberately, whether the defendant would present "future dangerousness" to society by committing violent acts in the future, whether their conduct was unreasonable in the response to provocation and whether they should receive a death sentence.

All 12 jurors must answer yes to all four questions in order to sentence someone to death.

SB 1013 seeks to remove the "future dangerousness" question from proceedings. Jurors would need to answer yes for the three remaining questions.

Williamson said future dangerousness does not need to be proven beyond a reasonable doubt. Only a preponderance of evidence is needed.

But Marion County Deputy District Attorney Matthew Kemmy said this question, more often than any one thing, narrows the decision on whether prosecutors will seek the death penalty.

He also expresed concern the elimination of the question would make Oregon's capital punishment law unconstitutional. Williamson said the language of the 1984 ballot measure gave legislators the responsibility of working out technical issues.

She didn't say if she thought the issue of repealing the death penalty should go to voters but said she'd rather the legislature work to make the system better.

But Suver said the definition of aggravated murder in 1984 was almost identical to what it is today. Voters knew what they were making death-eligible, and changing the law goes against the voters.

"This repeals the death penalty in Oregon and this is not the right process to do it,' Suver said. "It's not a fair process. It's not a just process."

Oregon has not had an execution since 1997, and all potential executions have been subject to a moratorium put in place in 2011 by then-Gov. John Kitzhaber.

After taking office, Gov. Kate Brown upheld the moratorium and made her personal opposition to the death penalty clear.

According to the Oregon Department of Corrections, 29 Men and one woman are currently on death row. All were sentenced after 1984. ★

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